



A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire,
ESTABLISHED 1859.

The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades of the British Empire. It is adopted as an official journal by nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and the West Indies, and its paid-in-advance circulation in Great Britain and all Countries having business relations with the British Empire is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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NO TIME TO LOSE.

Commercial competition is so keen nowadays that no business-man can afford to miss an opportunity. He must do everything he can to retain his customers by putting forward attractive novelties, and this serves the double purpose of securing new customers. A business that is not progressing is stagnating, and that is why prominent and effective inset-advertising in the

WINTER ISSUE

OF

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

is so popular in the drug trade all over the world. It stimulates the appetite of buyers, and infuses new life into the merchandising of pharmaceutical products. The Publisher desires to remind advertisers who have not already given him their instructions for insets, and also for announcements in the ordinary advertising pages, that the publication date of the Winter Issue is

JANUARY 27.

SUMMARY OF THIS ISSUE.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

Articles and Communications.

The sections of the Shops Act which pertain to the retail drug-trade are printed on pp. 44-45.

The Finance Act is epitomised, with particulars regarding the rectified-spirit licence for wholesale druggists (pp. 48-49).

1,237,562,434l. was the value of the export and import trade of the United Kingdom during 1911. This is a record (p. 50).

A portrait and biography of Mr. A. W. Greaves, the President of the Chesterfield Pharmacists' Association, are given on p. 54.

Fresh information in regard to the National Insurance Act is given on p. 43, including the cost of working the German medical system (p. 43).

"Sen—Senatony" is the range of words in the new section of the Oxford English Dictionary. "Seidlitz" and "Seltzogene" are included (p. 47).

Peace! Fifty years ago it was between the United Kingdom and the United States. The names of Procter, Parrish, and Maisch were then well thought of here (p. 68).

The labelling of liquid ammonia is creating much interest. Authorities agree that retailers of proprietary ammonia sold in wrappers may put their name-and-address label on the wrapper (p. 521).

News of the Week.

Two unstamped medicine cases are reported on p. 39.

The Local Government Board has formulated definitions of vinegar (p. 34).

The death of Dr. Sophia Jex-Blake, a pioneer of medical women, is reported (p. 41).

The hearing of the action of Reeves, the paint people, against a Boots company has commenced (p. 39).

Some results of the Opium Conference are foreshadowed, which will affect cocaine and morphine manufacturers (p. 37).

Appreciation of the late Mr. J. C. C. Payne was expressed at the Council-meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (p. 59).

A drug-store keeper in Rock Ferry, Birkenhead, has been fined under the Merchandise Marks Act for selling paregoric sine opio (p. 40).

Minor examination results in Edinburgh and London this month are given on p. 58, and the Irish Pharmaceutical Preliminary results on p. 59.

The by-laws providing for pharmaceutical reciprocity and a compulsory curriculum were agreed to by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain on Wednesday (pp. 57-58). What will happen now? (p. 51).

The steps taken by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain to safeguard the interests of chemists under the National Insurance Act, and the constitution of the representative committee which is to deal with it, are reported on p. 57.

Mr. C. T. Kingett and Mr. R. C. Woodcock, of the "Sanitas" Co., Ltd., read a paper before the London Section of the Society of Chemical Industry giving the results of the research, upon which they have been engaged for some time, regarding the formation of formic and acetic acids by the oxidation of turpentine (p. 59).

Trade and Market Matters.

Some interesting particulars in regard to the quicksilver market are given on p. 63.

In an editorial on page 49 we give further particulars in regard to the tax on the collection of buchu, and the efforts of the South African Government to conserve the industry.

More activity has prevailed this week, home buyers replenishing their stocks, while the export trade in chemicals and drugs continues good. The chief changes include an advance in santonin, borax and boric acid, ammonia sulphate, Florentine orris, and dill oil. Among the articles which have declined are vanilla, turpentine, tonka beans, English peppermint oil, apricot-kernel oil, and quicksilver (second-hands). The drug-sales were resumed to-day (p. 61).

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Three samples of Epsom salts and one of oil of nutmeg were certified as adulterated by the Essex analyst last year.

The Hampton Wick District Council on Monday increased the salary of its medical officer of health by 5*l.* per annum to keep a supply of anti-toxin in stock in future.

Fire caused damage to the extent of 100*l.* at the pharmacy of Mr. F. Falkbridge, chemist and druggist, 78 Baxtergate, Whitby, on the evening of January 6. The loss is covered by insurance.

A series of six lectures on Illuminating Engineering will commence at the Northampton Institute, Clerkenwell, London, E.C., on January 16. The syllabus, which is obtainable from the Principal, shows that some of the lectures will be of practical interest to opticians.

The fire at the Cerebos-salt works, Greatham, which we noted last week, resulted in the practical destruction of the old works, some salt-pans and the offices being saved. A large range of new works in course of erection was saved, although the scaffolding caught fire in many places. Owing to shortage of water, the company's brine-reservoirs were drawn upon freely. The damage, which is covered by insurance, is estimated at between 20,000*l.* and 30,000*l.*

The Management Committee of the Portsmouth Hospital considered a motion for amending rules which prevented doctors who dispensed their own medicines from being appointed to the hospital's medical staff. It was stated that at present practically all the Landport practitioners were debarred from staff appointments. After an animated discussion the proposed amendment for removing the dispensing disqualification was carried by seventeen votes to four.

The Blackburn Guardians' Finance and Salaries Committee, reporting on an application from the dispenser, Mr. C. H. Hacking, Ph.C., for an increase of salary, stated that in their opinion Mr. Hacking is a capable officer and had performed his duties in a satisfactory manner, but at the same time the committee recommended that the consideration of the application should be adjourned for three months until the appointment of a resident medical officer is dealt with. The Guardians at their meeting on January 6 adopted the recommendation.

General Standard for Vinegar.

In a letter addressed to the Secretary of the London and Country Vinegar Brewers' Association, the Assistant Secretary of the Local Government Board states that in the opinion of the Board the following definitions might properly be adopted :

Vinegar is a liquid derived wholly from alcoholic and acetoous fermentations; it shall contain not less than 4 grammes of acetic acid (CH_3COOH) in 100 cubic centimetres of vinegar; it shall not contain arsenic in amounts exceeding 0.0143 milligramme per 100 cubic centimetres of vinegar, nor any sulphuric or other mineral acid, lead, or copper, nor shall it contain any foreign substance or colouring-matter except caramel. Malt vinegar is derived wholly from malted barley or wholly from cereals, the starch of which has been saccharified by the diastase of malt. Artificial vinegar: Artificial vinegar is any vinegar, or substitute for vinegar, containing or derived from any preparation containing any added acetic acid which is not wholly the product of alcoholic and subsequent acetoous fermentation. It shall contain not less than 4 grammes of acetic acid (CH_3COOH) in 100 cubic centimetres of the artificial vinegar. It shall not contain arsenic in amounts exceeding 0.0143 milligramme per 100 cubic centimetres of artificial vinegar, nor any sulphuric or other mineral acid, lead, or copper, nor shall it contain any foreign substance or colouring-matter except caramel.

Chemists' Ball.

The forty-sixth annual Chemists' Ball will be held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on Wednesday

next, January 17. The following are acting as Stewards on this occasion :

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| C. B. Allen | J. F. Harrington | F. G. Pirie |
| C. T. Allen | Vivian C. Hewlett | C. S. Present |
| Alfd. R. Arrowsmith | Charles Alex. Hill | Alf. C. Preston |
| F. W. Ashton | Ernest W. Hill | H. Raithby Procter |
| W. Arnold Baiss | D. Lloyd Howard | W. H. Quarrell |
| R. Bremridge | Geoff. E. Howard | Lawrence J. Read |
| J. Cofman | W. Lamond Howie | J. W. Royle |
| Arthur W. Crossley | E. A. Hugill | Arthur L. Savory |
| M. Daniels | T. H. W. Idris | Frank U. Stamp |
| R. D. Dixon | W. B. Kelly | F. C. Stephens |
| Rutland S. Ely | G. A. Lansdown | Frank H. Summers |
| F. M. Fisk | Peter MacEwan | C. Sansom Taylor |
| W. Garsed | C. W. Martin | John C. Umney |
| W. S. Gill | W. H. Martindale | Henry Walker |
| W. S. Glyn-Jones | C. Trentham Maw | W. Phillip Want |
| R. Gower | T. D. Morson | R. C. Warrick |
| F. Capel Hanbury | R. Pain | G. S. V. Wills |
| Alwyne Harries | Geo. Pearson | |

Mr. Alan Francis, 22 to 30 Graham Street, City Road, N., is the Hon. Secretary, and tickets can be obtained from him (lady's 12*s.* 6*d.*, gentleman's 17*s.* 6*d.*, including refreshments, supper, and wine) or from any of the Stewards.

International Congress of Medicine.

The seventeenth International Congress of Medicine is to be held in London from August 6 to 12 next year. Already preparations are being made for this event, and the King has extended his patronage to the Congress. There are twenty-four sections and three sub-sections, Sections V. (pharmacology, etc.) and XVIII. (hygiene and preventive medicine) being of particular interest to our readers. Members of the Congress must be qualified members of the medical profession or "scientific men who have been nominated by a National Committee or by the Executive Committee." The subscription is 1*l.* The General Secretary, Dr. W. P. Herringham, 15 Hinde Street, London, W., supplies application-forms to those desirous of participating in the Congress.

Masonic.

Mr. Harold Mitchell, chemist and druggist, was installed, on January 8, W.M. of the Byfield Lodge 2632. During Mr. Mitchell's fourteen years' membership of his Mother Lodge, he has only missed one regular meeting, and that through illness.

Mr. D. H. Oxen, chemist and druggist, of 38 High Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme, has been appointed Secretary of the Sutherland Lodge of Unity of Freemasons. Mr. C. J. Wain, Ph.C., of 17 Red Lion Square, is the D.C. of the Lodge for the year.

Poison-licences.

Mr. John Walter Hibbert, of 10 Castle Street, Cardiff, has applied to the local authority for a poison-licence.

The Torquay Town Council has granted the application of Mr. John Tall, assistant to Mr. W. B. Smale, poison-licencee, for a licence to sell agri-horticultural poisons.

The Richmond Town Council on January 9 renewed the poison-licences of Mr. Sydney Flowers, ironmonger, Kew Road, Richmond, and Mr. L. R. Russell, the Richmond Nurseries; Mr. Wm. J. Spanswick, employed by Mr. Flowers, was also licensed under Section 2 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act.

Contracts.

Croydon Guardians.—K. Schall & Co. for x-ray apparatus, at 53*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*, inclusive of fixture charges.

Canterbury City Council.—Mr. R. Croft, chemist, 1 The Parade, Canterbury, appointed Corporation chemist for six months.

Stockport Town Council.—J. C. Arnfield & Sons, Ltd., Stockport, for the supply of drugs, etc., to the Isolation Hospitals for a year.

Rotherham Town Council.—Newton, Chambers & Co., Ltd., for the supply of a pressure wet-steam disinfecter at 170*l.*

Liverpool Notes.

Messrs. Warhurst, Ltd., have opened a pharmacy at Waterloo, while they have closed down their business at Garston. Considering that a chemist in Garston is now in the Bankruptcy Court, the neighbourhood does not seem to provide a "good pitch."

In some parts of Liverpool, notably the west, bottles of 2-grain cascara-sagrada tablets (25's) are being "cut" at 2d. One chemist filled his window with them, and offered one free to purchasers of goods to the value of 1s. A wholesale house recently purchased samples in different parts of the city, and found that some did not contain more than 1 grain of the extract.

At the "Missionary and Social Service Exhibit" held this week in the Y.M.C.A. Gymnasium at Myrtle Street, the Medical Missions Section contained a model mission hospital, including ward, operating-theatre, dispensary, and a native doctor's shop. The contrast between them created great interest. The dispensary was fitted-up by Messrs. Symes & Co., Ltd., of 14 Hardman Street.

Mr. W. H. Roberts, the new Liverpool analyst, graduated at Liverpool University in 1896, entering the City and County Laboratories as an assistant in the same year. Mr. Roberts became an M.Sc. of Victoria University, Manchester, in 1902, and of Liverpool University in 1904. He became a Fellow of the Institute of Chemistry in 1905. His new chief assistant is Mr. Gabriel Jones, F.I.C.

At a mass meeting of chemists held in Liverpool it was agreed to a levy of 10s. each, to fight for their rights under the National Insurance Act. Of this sum 2s. 6d. was paid at once. A second levy of 2s. 6d. each has been made, bringing the total to 5s. Unfortunately some of the chemists failed to respond, and as the Secretary finds he has an adverse balance, he is appealing to them to pay up.

For the five vacancies in the Council of the Liverpool Chemists' Association, Messrs. A. C. Abraham, T. F. Abraham, Prosper H. Marsden, and Charles Symes, Ph.D., who retire by rotation, have been nominated, as well as four new candidates, Messrs. J. W. Hawley, W. F. Laycock, H. Lomax, and L. Moreton Parry. The latter four are issuing election addresses. As a result of the consideration by a special committee recently appointed, with Mr. John H. Robinson as Secretary, to consider the future of the Association, a series of proposals are to be brought forward for discussion at the annual meeting with a view to their incorporation in the constitution and rules of the Association. It is proposed that the present system of electing members of Council for three years, with re-election at the end of this period, should be changed for the system followed by the Pharmaceutical Society in the appointment of examiners, so that members of the Council would serve for two years and not be eligible for re-election until an interval of one year has elapsed. At present the Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary are elected by the Council of the Association, but it is proposed that this duty should fall to the members of the Association at the annual meeting. The Association has two secretaries. It is now proposed that henceforth there should be one general secretary, and that each committee should have its own secretary, who will be responsible to the general secretary. It is also proposed that a Business Committee should be formed, with power to add to its number. Other alterations are proposed, but these embody the reforms which have long been debated by members of the Association.

Midland Notes.

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Hunt were presented with an illuminated address and some silver-ware, purchased by the townspeople of Wednesbury, of which Mr. Hunt had been Mayor for two years. He is a member of the firm of Messrs. Chance & Hunt, chemical-manufacturers, of Wednesbury and Oldbury.

A well-known medical knight is prescribing as a bath for rheumatic subjects the following:

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|------------|------|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| Pulv. | pot. | nit. | ... | ... | ... | 3 <i>ij.</i> |
| Sodæ | tartaratae | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 <i>ij.</i> |
| Sodii carb. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 <i>v.</i> |

It is said to be so effectual that an enthusiastic layman proposes to "put it on the market."

The Cheltenham Mineral Waters, which were leased to a local medical man, have now reverted to the Corporation, who have resolved to invite the medical profession,

Chambers of Commerce, and others to a conference as to what steps should now be taken to develop the waters, which at one time had a far-famed reputation.

The Midland Institute, Birmingham, whose foundation-stone was laid by Prince Consort in 1856, and which was the home of chemical teaching and allied subjects to pharmacists of a former generation, is passing through a time of financial stress. It is hoped that the City Council may come to its aid. The Institute soirée, held this week, had for all sections of science an interesting series of exhibits. To the chemist Mr. Hall-Edwards, the radiographer, appealed with his excellent display of chemicals and chemical apparatus and processes. The photographer was catered for by Dr. Ratcliffe's "Utocolor" paper, lent by Messrs. Sanger, Shepherd & Co. Mr. E. Clemenshaw, sometime chemist at Messrs. Chance & Hunt, Oldbury, had photo-enlargements of geological Alps. Magnificent pictures of orchids were exhibited by a local scientific brewer, and many others of interest were on view.

From Various Courts.

At Lambeth Police Court on January 9, Daisy Newland (18), domestic servant, was committed for trial on a charge of vitriol-throwing.

At the Lambeth Police Court on January 10, Alice Abrahams (29) was committed for trial on a charge of throwing vitriol over Frederick Dennison. Bail was allowed in the sum of 50*l.*

At Newcastle-under-Lyme Quarter Sessions on January 4, Mr. C. J. Wain, Ph.C., sued A. J. Cartledge, tailor, for obtaining by false pretences 2*l.*, money advanced on a suit of clothes. Accused said the delay in delivery of the suit was due to pressure of business, and offered to execute the order with others in six weeks. Accused was dismissed with a reprimand from the Recorder.

At the Central Criminal Court on January 10, the hearing was resumed before Judge Smith of the libel charge brought by Mr. Thomas Hubert Stephens, wholesale druggist, High Holborn, London, W.C., against his father, Mr. Thomas English Stephens, barrister, residing at the National Liberal Club. The alleged libel arose in connection with a series of financial transactions between members of the family. The case was adjourned.

At the London Sessions on January 9, George Bird (24), machinist, who pleaded guilty to stealing three bottles of scent from a chemist's shop in Blandford Street, Marylebone, was sentenced to twenty months' imprisonment, with hard labour. Prisoner had made a practice of calling on chemists for two-pennyworth of ammonia, and when the assistant's back was turned stealing the most expensive perfumes within reach. Besides being a persistent thief, the prisoner was continually giving bogus information to police officers with the object of getting money from them.

At Southwark on January 5, an inquest was held on Wm. H. Notley (53), who died from blood-poisoning. Deceased had dressed a cut finger with some poultice powder of which a pennyworth had been obtained from a "lady herbalist." The Coroner's officer stated that the latter said the powder contained ginger, slippery-elm bark, and white palm lilies. The Coroner remarked during the hearing of the evidence that there seemed to be nothing to prevent herbalists from making quite a lot of money, and that he would like to see Government control of herbalists and vendors of ointments. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

At the Shropshire Quarter Sessions on January 2, John Albert Thornley, of Darley Street, Bolton, was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment with hard labour for obtaining money by false pretences. Accused had advertised for "a smart energetic man to sell 1*d.* and 3*d.* goods to shops on splendid commission." Prisoner sent an applicant samples of pills, with an elaborate bill-head describing himself as the "manufacturer and sole proprietor of the 'Busy Bee Pills' and 'The Little Wonders.'" He asked for a deposit of 1*l.* for the agency but sent no goods, nor were there any indications of pills being manufactured at accused's house, where distraint had been made. He admitted that the pills were not made by himself, but that he purchased them, and that they were manufactured by Mr. Thomas Guest, Manchester.

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Mr. Thomas L. Cole, Ph.C., is a candidate for a seat on the Lurgan Urban District Council.

Mr. John O'Donnell, in the employ of Mr. John Walsh, Medical Hall, Maghera, has sustained concussion of the brain through a fall from an upper storey. He was supervising the lowering of some goods when he overbalanced and fell 30 feet.

Mr. J. F. Browne has been appointed manager to Mr. W. A. Lynass, Ann Street, Belfast. His fellow-employés at Messrs. Grattan & Co., Ltd., on January 5, presented him with a dressing-case as a token of their esteem. Mr. Browne was apprenticed with Mr. H. Boyers, Ph.C., Sligo.

A reply has been received by the South Dublin Guardians from the Local Government Board regarding the decision of the Guardians to allow Dr. McKenna to continue to act as dispenser for the Donnybrook Dispensary District. The L.G.B. decline to sanction this, and in consequence the Guardians decided to communicate with the dispensers at their other dispensaries for the purpose of ascertaining if any of them would be willing to be transferred to Irishtown dispensary.

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Dundee.

Mr. H. J. Hunt, Dundee, as secretary of the Forfarshire Chemists' Association, is distributing the *C. & D.* reprint of the Medical Benefit Section of the Insurance Act to the members.

It is understood that the New Year's trade in Dundee was fairly satisfactory. Perfumes, electric flash-lamps, hair brushes, and ginger-wine essence were some of the leading lines which captured a share of the extra money circulating at that time.

An effort is being made in Dundee to get new members for the British Pharmaceutical Conference in view of the meeting in Edinburgh this summer. Recent deaths and lapses have somewhat reduced the number in this district. Mr. William Cummings, local corresponding secretary, has sent postcards to likely members.

The death of Mr. Wm. Day, of the Southern Drug Co., Ltd., recalls the boom in sulphur tablets of some years ago. Mr. Day bought his supplies of these from a Dundee wholesale firm, who gave him a good quotation for them, and the transactions amounted to hundreds of pounds. During a long period no steamer left Dundee for London without several hundredweights of sulphur tablets for Day's.

Aberdeen.

A move is afoot for the organisation of West Aberdeen-shire in view of the National Insurance Act's advent. This would complete the organisation of the country. The Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association is to be "At Home" in the West-end Café, Aberdeen, on Tuesday, February 27, from 7.45 p.m. Progressive whist, supper, and dancing form the programme for the evening.

Messrs. W. Davidson & Co., herring-curers, have written to the Aberdeen Harbour Board asking for permission to use a portion of their premises at Poora Quay for the manufacture of cod-liver oil. The Board's Lands and Fishings Committee have resolved to offer no objection to the proposal as far as the Harbour Commissioners are concerned.

Edinburgh.

The Burgh Education Committee of the Edinburgh Town Council has appointed Mr. J. L. Ewing as a representative from the Secondary Education Committee to the Provincial Committee.

It is rumoured that St. Cuthbert's Co-operative Association, Ltd., are experiencing difficulty in obtaining certain

protected proprietaries, on which they have alleged to have paid their usual dividend.

Councillor William Inman has presented a picture by Mr. Robert Hope, A.R.S.A., to fill one of the panels in the new Council Chambers at Edinburgh, the subject being the presentation by King James III. of "The Blue Blanket" to the craftsmen of the fourteen incorporated trades of the city.

A great deal of irritation (writes a correspondent) is felt by local chemists over the Boots' extension scheme. Someone has spread the news that the company do not contemplate opening more than thirty shops in Edinburgh and district! Be this as it may, there are loud murmurings among pharmacists. One gentleman recently complained that one of his representatives on the Town Council is the local managing director of the invaders. It is not an impossibility that the personage referred to may be elected as Lord Provost next November, and little birds have whispered that even Parliament may be his goal.

[In a recent conversation which a *C. & D.* representative had with Sir Jesse Boot he was informed that rumours in Edinburgh regarding the company's intentions in that city are particularly absurd. We may recall the statement, already published in the *C. & D.*, that a shop in Princess Street was the company's object in going to Edinburgh. Anything in the nature of wholesale extension is not contemplated.]

Glasgow and the West.

Mr. John Fyfe, chemist, 558 Cathcart Road, has taken over the business of Mr. Robert Tocher, at 491 Victoria Road. Mr. Fyfe will carry on both businesses.

Mr. C. P. Hunt is giving lectures and cinematograph-displays illustrative of work at Port Sunlight. While in Glasgow he is also describing the copra industry carried on by Lever Bros., Ltd., in the Solomon Islands.

Dumfries and Maxwelltown chemists at a meeting have unanimously agreed to observe a weekly half-holiday on Thursday afternoon, opening for one hour in the evening from 7 to 8 o'clock. The arrangement begins this week.

The new Shops Act is the subject of much discussion among chemists and druggists. Many favour a general closing for the half-holiday so as to obviate the necessity of extra assistants. It is expected that a meeting will be held to consider the matter.

Evidence in an action for divorce by Jane A. Leask, or Tocher, Glasgow, against her husband, Mr. Robert Tocher, Ph.C., has been given in Edinburgh this week. Owing to his mental condition, Mr. Tocher's curator (Mr. Forbes, advocate), watched the case on his behalf, and Mrs. Tocher's allegations against her husband were denied. Lord Dewar has reserved his judgment.

The syllabus of the annual competition instituted by the late Mr. Alexander Kinninmont for pharmacy students in Glasgow and the West of Scotland is now obtainable from Mr. W. L. Currie, Hon. Secretary, 223 Byres Road, Dowlanhill, Glasgow. Names of intending competitors must be sent in by April 30. The committee have decided this year to offer a second prize in addition to the gold medal, books, and apparatus which form the Kinninmont Prize.

Alexander Wright, salesman, 16 Laird Street, Greenock, has presented a petition to the Sheriff of Renfrew and Bute at Greenock for sequestration of the estates of MacNaught Brothers, chemists, general dealers, etc., 4 West Blackhall Street, Greenock, and Archibald Hamilton MacNaught, the only partner of the firm. The Sheriff on January 2 granted a warrant for citing MacNaught Brothers and Archibald Hamilton MacNaught to appear in court, on an inducement of seven days if within Scotland and twenty-one days if further of Scotland from the date of citation, to show cause why sequestration should not be awarded.

HONORARY MEMBERS.—On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the Swedish Farmaceutiska Foereningen Dr. Salzmann, of Berlin, President of the Deutscher Apotheker Verein, Geh. Regierungsrat Professor Dr. E. Schmidt, of Marburg, and Professor Dr. H. Thoms, of Berlin, have been appointed honorary members of the Association.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN NEWS.

PROPRIETARY MEDICINES IN PERU.—A recent American Consular report on proprietary-medicine regulations in Peru states that by the Medicinal Code of 1908 the exact formula of all new proprietary medicines shall be filed with the Faculty of Medicine of Lima. It is necessary that the interested party present himself to the dean of the faculty, bringing with him samples for analysis. The fee for filing the formula is \$4.87 for each ingredient of the preparation.

NEWFOUNDLAND COD-LIVER OIL.—Endeavours have been recently made to improve the quality of Newfoundland cod-liver oil, and with that object the Newfoundland Government engaged an expert (Mr. Simonsen) from the Lofoten Islands, Norway. In a recent competition for a gold medal offered by Mr. W. A. Mum, a well-known maker, over thirty factories sent in barrels of oil for competition, and the medal was secured by Mr. Herbert Avery, of Gratis Cove, B.D.V. Mr. Simonsen, in reporting on the competition, states that several factories made oil of excellent quality, and that it will be possible for all of them to make better oil next year.

ITALIAN MINERAL-WATERS FOR BRITAIN.—The "Giornale della Camera di Commercio Italiana" gives the following particulars regarding the importation of Italian mineral-waters into Great Britain. The chief waters imported are Nocera Umbra, San Pellegrino, Rocla, Sangemini, Pliniana, Fiuggi, San Marco, and Angelica. The waters of Nocera Umbra, San Pellegrino, and Sangemini are recommended as table-waters. Rocla is a ferruginous water, Fiuggi is charged with calcium carbonate, San Marco is alkaline containing lithium, while Tamerici is well known for its natural chlorides, sulphates, and iodides. The following quantities were exported to Great Britain :

| Nocera Umbra. | San Pellegrino. |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Bottles | Bottles |
| 1909 9,250 | 1,250 |
| 1910 12,500 | 2,000 |
| 1911 (8 months) ... 21,000 | 9,600 |

Of Catullina Civillina ("Rocla") the exports (bottles) to Great Britain were: 1907-8, 8,000; 1908-9, 18,000; 1909-10, 5,000; and 1910-11, 8,000. The "Giornale" enumerates the great difficulties experienced in introducing a new mineral-water on the English market.

PRESCRIBING PROPRIETARIES.—Swiss doctors are following the example of their *confrères* in other countries by prescribing on an increasing scale specialities and packed medicines. This question has been engaging the attention of the Swiss Pharmaceutical Society for some time, and now definite steps are to be taken to induce the doctors to depart from their evil ways. In the first place, a list of non-official galenical preparations has been elaborated, and a copy will be sent to every doctor, together with a memorial pointing out the disadvantages resulting from the increasing use of specialities, and offering suggestions tending to place the art of prescribing on a more rational basis. The German example of home-made specialities is also to be adopted, and a collection of formulae will be supplied to every pharmacist according to which he will be able to prepare his own counter specialities, thus ensuring the sale of uniform products throughout the country. Each speciality will be packed and labelled according to an established model, and provided with a trade-mark which is the property of the Society, and registered by the latter on behalf of its members.

THE OPIUM CONFERENCE.—In giving a *résumé* of the deliberations of the Opium Conference at The Hague, the special correspondent of "The Times" states that the chief result will, it is anticipated, be a definite acceptance by the representatives of the twelve Powers concerned of the principle that there must be concerted international action to control the traffic in opium, morphine, cocaine, and other dangerous drugs in the general interests of humanity. The initiative and influence of the British representatives have been particularly directed towards practical legislation to deal with the traffic in morphine and cocaine. As matters now stand, the manufacture of morphine and cocaine for export being almost entirely confined to British and German firms respectively, the refusal to allow these

drugs to be exported without a permit should prove (the correspondent believes) immediately effective to prevent illicit trading. It is, however, significant of the difficulties underlying any wide application of such measures that a tentative proposal has been made at the Conference to the effect that signatory Powers should reserve the right to denounce the Conference at one month's notice should any country hereafter begin to cultivate opium or to manufacture morphine—a suggestion which, if adopted, would involve the creation of valuable monopolies for existing vested interests. It is significant that Russia claimed to be treated as an opium-growing country, a claim, to use the words of "The Times" correspondent, "so apparently superfluous under existing conditions that it has been attributed in certain quarters to an intelligent anticipation of the reversion of the Persian opium trade." It is understood that the Convention must be ratified within one year, the usual formalities to that end being carried out with the assistance of the Minister of Foreign Affairs at The Hague.

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

MME. CURIE'S HEALTH.—Mme. Curie is reported to be still in the Nursing Home to which she was taken last week, and her condition is said to have improved. The proposed operation for appendicitis has not taken place so far.

BERLIN POISONING EPIDEMIC.—Dr. Bordas, the well-known expert chemist of the French Ministry of Finance, has just returned to Paris from Berlin, where he has been studying officially the mysterious poisoning cases which have caused so much alarm in the German capital. In the course of an interview Dr. Bordas has explained that, after the examination of anatomical specimens and following a *post-mortem* examination carried out in his presence, he has eliminated completely all idea of enteric fever, cholera, or even poisoning by food products, such as decayed herrings or preserved meats. He is of opinion that the epidemic must be attributed to poisoning through drinking very impure alcohols of an artificial nature.

[A German correspondent informs us that the police have arrested a druggist named Scharnach, who admits having sold a mixture composed of methyl alcohol 75 per cent. and ethyl alcohol 25 per cent. to various low-class public-houses in Berlin. Other spirit substitutes have been advertised under the names of "Spiritol" and "Spiritogen," and it is stated that proceedings have been commenced against the manufacturers of these fluids. Methyl alcohol poisoning has been hitherto unknown in Germany, but cases have been recorded in Russia and Hungary, where a mortality of 50 per cent. is mentioned in these cases.]

VACCINATION AGAINST ENTERIC.—A French pharmacist-poet claimed for Pelletier and Caventou, the discoverers of quinine, the title of the "pacific conquerors" of France's Algerian possessions, and Dr. Chantemesse will perhaps go down to posterity as a bloodless victor over the scourge of modern armies. The more or less "peaceful penetration" of the French forces into Morocco from the Oudja district (Algerian frontier) has been attended by a certain amount of sickness among the troops, and more especially of typhoid fever. The system of vaccination against this disease, adopted for English troops sent out to the Transvaal, and for the German forces in the Herrero campaign, has recently been carried out in the United States army on a very large scale (45,000 men in 2½ years). General Février, head of the French Sanitary Corps, went to America to study this system, and was favourably impressed, and the Academy of Medicine voted last year Professor Chantemesse's proposition to apply it to the French troops in Morocco. M. Messimy, Minister of War, deputed Head-Surgeon Vincent and Professor Chantemesse to make the experiment at Oudja last August. Fifty zouaves who accepted the Professor's vaccination had neither fever nor any gastric troubles, while of the thirty who refused, two caught the fever and one died, and four more went into hospital for gastric fever. M. Vincent obtained similar results.

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

(From "C. & D." Correspondents.)

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

Cape Province.

THE CHIEF GOVERNMENT ANALYST, Mr. C. F. Juritz, M.A., and his staff have removed from Cape Town to Pretoria, the administrative capital of the Union.

REVISION of rates on packages consigned per passenger trains of the South African Railway system is urgently needed. The charges on certain classes of goods are best described as "exorbitant."

DEATH.—We have to record the death of Mr. P. J. Kavanagh, who had been seriously ill for some months. Mr. Kavanagh had been connected with both Messrs. Petersen, Ltd., and Messrs. Heynes Mathew, Ltd.

CREDITORS' MEETING.—At the second meeting of creditors in the assigned estate of Mr. J. S. North, chemist, Cape Town, held recently, it was decided that the business be wound-up as soon as possible and sold as a "going concern."

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF CAPE COLONY.—At the meeting on December 21, 1911, the principal item was a discussion on "The Chemists' Position in regard to the Union Defence Scheme." The President, Dr. Froembling, opened.

CHRISTMAS TRADE.—Within a week of Christmas trade was brightening up considerably, and chemists were looking forward to a few days of brisk and profitable business. Large crowds also were arriving daily in Cape Town from the outlying districts.

Orange Free State.

O.F.S. PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.—The Pharmaceutical Society of the Free State held its annual general meeting in Vicker's Buildings, Bloemfontein, on December 12, 1911. Mr. S. Taylor presided over a good attendance. After Messrs. Taylor, Rawling, and Auld had been thanked for their services during the past year as President, Secretary, and Treasurer respectively, the following officers were elected for 1912: President, Mr. J. Rawling; Vice-President, Mr. F. Carter; Secretary, Mr. S. S. Hewitt; Treasurer, Mr. A. T. Auld; Committee, Messrs. Friedman, Greaves, McMurray, and Taylor.

SUNDAY TRADING.—As a result of the discussion on "Sunday Trading," held last session, chemists in Bloemfontein have decided (with one exception) not to open their doors on Sundays, but exhibit a notice stating that attendance is given during certain hours for the supply of medicines and surgical appliances. This is being tried for a month. Those chemists who were most active in pressing for it stated that they could not expect the public to have any respect for the chemist so long as he threw his shop wide open on Sundays for the sale of perfumery, sweets, and photographic materials. It must be noted that the Free State law is different from that of other parts of South Africa in that the chemist's shop is entirely exempted, as such, from the Sunday Trading Law.

Rhodesia.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF RHODESIA.—The annual meeting was held in the office of Messrs. Smart & Copley, Bulawayo, on December 12, 1911. Five new members were enrolled. The Treasurer's report showed that the Society was in a prosperous condition. The election of office-bearers resulted as follows: President, Mr. Percy W. Skerrett, of Salisbury (at present on holiday in England); Vice-President, Mr. C. F. Conrath; Treasurer, Mr. David Morris; Secretary, Mr. John C. More. The above, with Messrs. W. J. Bickle and W. Dawn Copley, form the Executive. After some discussion it was resolved to close the places of business in Bulawayo at 6.30 p.m., instead of 7 p.m., this period of early closing to commence on March 25. The hours of duty on Sundays were also shortened, and the Secretary was instructed to notify the local medical men of these changes.

Transvaal.

PERSONAL.—Mr. R. Q. Leeds, managing director of Messrs. Lennon, Ltd., Transvaal branch, returned to Johannesburg last week after four weeks' holiday at the Cape.

HAIL-STORM HAVOC.—The recent hail-storm that occurred in Johannesburg was the severest for many years, and did a tremendous amount of damage, nearly every business in the city being more or less affected. Among the number was Messrs. Lennon, Ltd., in Pritchard Street, who suffered to the extent of nearly 500L.

ATHLETIC CLUB'S SMOKING-CONCERT.—A smoking-concert in connection with the Transvaal Chemists' Athletic Club was held at Johannesburg on December 13, 1911. Mr. Sanderson (President) occupied the chair, and about sixty members and friends were present. During the evening a splendid programme of songs, recitations, etc., was gone through, and the successful competitors in the recent competitions were presented with their prizes—*Golf*: 1st prize (a solid silver cup presented by the Transvaal Drug Co.), Mr. J. Johnston; 2nd prize (rose bowl), Mr. J. Sanderson. *Bridge*: 1st prize (marble clock), Mr. J. Anderson; 2nd prize (silver cigarette-case), Mr. C. Mills. A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" terminated a most enjoyable evening.

OUR GERMAN LETTER.

(Special Correspondence to the "C. & D.")

Dispensing Tariff.—This year all hopes which were entertained by apothekers of an increase in the prescription tariff have been rudely shattered, as absolutely no change has been made. Expenses have increased, the cost of living has risen to such an extent that many municipal bodies have granted their employés a special increase of salaries known as a "dearness increase" (Teurungszulage), taxation has also increased; while the profits have decreased in consequence of the cheaper form of prescribing now generally adopted by doctors (largely a result of compulsory insurance) and of the competition by druggists. In spite of these considerations, the margin of profit allowed the pharmacist on dispensing has not been altered for years; hence the great dissatisfaction.

Validity Insurance has by an Act passed by the Reichstag last month been extended from the artisan class to clerks and other employés, including pharmaceutical assistants, teachers, officers of the mercantile marine, musicians, and theatrical artistes, over sixteen years of age and earning under 250L per annum. The contributions will be borne in equal shares by the employer and the employé, and it is calculated that this extension will entail an annual expenditure of 7,500,000L, half of which will have to be defrayed by each party. The contributions will be divided into nine classes, according to the annual income of the insured, beginning with 1s. 7½d. a month for those with less than 27L 10s. a year, and rising to 1L 6s. 7½d. for those having between 200L and 250L a year. The State gives nothing except a certain measure of administrative assistance. It is assumed that over two million employés, including about 330,000 females, will be liable to compulsory insurance. The benefits to be conferred consist in granting old-age pensions on reaching the age of sixty-five, invalidity pension in the case of incapacity for work, and a pension to the widow and orphans at the death of the insured. Benefits, however, will only become operative after the insured has paid 120 monthly contributions, or sixty in the case of females. The administration will be vested in a board of directors appointed by the Emperor, and an administrative board consisting of at least twelve elected representatives of the employers and an equal number representing the employés. So far as pharmacy is concerned, all apprentices receiving pocket-money, and assistants whose annual income does not exceed 100L, including board and lodgings, will be liable to compulsory insurance; while assistants under forty years of age earning between 100L and 150L, as well as owners of pharmacies not employing more than two persons liable to compulsory insurance may join voluntarily. The contributions, which have to be paid in equal shares by employer and employé, are 2d. a week when the annual salary does not exceed 17L 10s.; 3d. for 17L 10s. to 27L 10s.; 4d. 27L 10s. to 42L 10s.; 5d. 42L 10s. to 57L 10s.; and 6d. over 57L 10s.

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

Junora Wine.—At the Bradford City Police Court on January 9, the summons against Taylor's Drug Co., Ltd., Burley Hill, Leeds, for selling a bottle of Junora wine which on analysis was found to contain no lecithin-ovo (*C. & D.*, January 6, index folio 8), was again mentioned. Mr. J. G. Gunter, of the Town Clerk's department, said that a further adjournment had been arranged, and the resumed hearing was desired for January 25. The Stipendiary: "It is a case which will take some time, I presume?" Mr. Gunter: "That is so. Mr. Watling is to prosecute on behalf of the Health Committee, and I understand that Mr. Bodkin is to defend the case." The Stipendiary agreed to adjourn the case until the date mentioned.

"Kure" and "Cure."—At Newport, Mon., on January 10, Mr. George Shelley, wholesale chemist, 232 Corporation Road, Newport, was summoned under the Medicine Stamp Act by the Excise authorities for selling dutiable medicines unstamped. Mr. Hubbard, of the Solicitors' Department, Board of Customs and Excise, said the defendant made and sold a preparation called "The Safe and Sure Kure: a Famous Powder for the Head and Nerves," and appeared to contend that because he spelt "cure" with a "k" the medicine was exempt from duty.—Mr. Lyndon Moore, on behalf of defendant, pleaded guilty to a technical offence adding that Mr. Shelley had written to the Board promising to withdraw the labels and substitute others.—Mr. Charles Simmonds, Government analyst, said the powder was a mixture of sugar and aceto-salicylic acid. The Bench imposed a fine of 20s., and three guineas costs. In a second case regarding "The All-round Ointment for All Kinds of Sores," costs only were ordered to be paid.

Travellers' Orders.—In the City of London Court, before Mr. Registrar Wild, on January 4, Basleys British Oil Co., 37 Walbrook, sued Mr. W. H. Smith, 52 Park Road, Merton, for 1*l*., for colza oil supplied in November 1910. The defendant, in answer to the Registrar, acknowledged that a receipt of delivery was signed by him, but he explained that plaintiffs' traveller insisted, as it were, upon sending him some oil, although he told him that he could not pay for it. To this the traveller said: "It don't matter; pay for it when you can." The oil in question was sent in some three weeks after the traveller's call. The Registrar: "And you used it?" The defendant: "No, sir, it was left on the premises. When the traveller called again he was told that the oil was still on the premises and asked to take it back. The traveller said 'No, we want the money.'" Defendant also stated that he is now out of business, and stays with his brother. The Registrar held that defendant was liable for the amount claimed, and made an order for him to pay by monthly instalments of five shillings.

The Great Welsh Remedy.—At Merthyr Police Court on January 9, William Thomas, provision merchant, Dowlaish, was summoned at the instance of the Excise Authorities for selling a dutiable medicine unstamped. Mr. A. F. Hubbard, Solicitors' Department, Board of Customs and Excise, who prosecuted, said the packet was labelled "The Great Welsh Remedy for all Skin-diseases," a statement which made it necessary to have a 1*sd*. stamp on each packet. Mr. T. H. Chegwen, Supervisor of Customs and Excise, Merthyr, proved the purchase of a box for 3*l*., the defendant supplying him. Sir Marchant Williams (Stipendiary Magistrate): "What is it, margarine, or something like it?" (Laughter.) Witness said the defendant told him that he thought his licence covered it. Defendant said he always understood that the onus of stamping rested upon the manufacturers. The Superintendent told him that he had been looking out for the manufacturer for a long time, and could not find him. The name "Glyn Hughes, Holywell," was on the box. The Stipendiary: "There is no such person in the place. The label is not properly printed in Welsh: the spelling is wrong." Defendant: "The Excise Authorities offered to settle it if I paid 10s., but I thought, for the benefit of others, that I would come into court." The Stipendiary imposed a fine of 10s., and costs.

Land-purchase Mistake.—Judge Reginald Brown delivered judgment on January 9 in the action brought by Mr. Matthew Henry Fox, Ph.C., Haslington, against Sir Delves Broughton, Bart., of Doddington Hall, Cheshire, arising out of an estate sale at Crewe (*C. & D.*, 1911, II, index folio 945). His Honour, in the course of his judgment, said that the plaintiff had admitted that he knew the sale was subject to a reserve price, and he held, therefore, that the plaintiff had had sufficient notice of there being a reserve price. That being so, the auctioneer had no authority to sell except subject thereto, and the alleged sale was not binding on the defendant. After dealing with other argu-

ments, his Honour added, in case the matter should go further, that the plaintiff was demanding the specific performance of an agreement which was entered into (if at all) through a slip or mistake (unaccompanied by gross negligence), not on his own part, but on the part of his agent, the auctioneer. In such circumstances, the jurisdiction being discretionary, it was not the practice in equity to decree specific performance, because it would be against conscience for one man to take advantage of the plain mistake of another. At least a Court of Equity would not assist him in doing so. If an Appeal Court thought an inquiry as to damages necessary they could order it. Judgment was given for defendant on all the points raised, with costs on Scale B.

High Court Cases.

Unless when otherwise stated these cases have been heard in the High Court of Justice, London.

FORTHCOMING LAW CASES.

Among the actions set down for hearing during the Hilary Law Sittings, which commenced on Thursday, January 11, of interest to readers of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, are the following:

King's Bench Division.—National Cash Register Co. v. Green; Dental Manufacturing Co. v. C. de Frey & Co.; Gibbon v. Simplex Polish Co.

Chancery Division.—Thirty-six actions by Messrs. Lever Bros., Ltd., and Benjamin Brooke & Co., Ltd., against various Co-operative Societies to restrain alleged substitution of defendants' soaps—"C. W. S. Flakes" and "Parrot Brand" for the plaintiffs' soaps "Lux" and "Monkey Brand." It will be recalled that one action against the Masbro Equitable Pioneers Society, Ltd., was decided on December 13 by Mr. Justice Joyce in favour of the defendants (see *C. & D.*, December 16). These cases are now marked to stand over for a day to be fixed. Other cases in the list are Reeves & Sons, Ltd., v. Boots Cash Chemists (Lancs), Ltd., and "In re an application for registration of a trade-mark by the community of the city of Karlsbad and in re the Trade-marks Act, 1905."

ACTION AGAINST BOOTS, LTD.

In the Chancery Division of the High Court on Thursday, January 11, Mr. Justice Parker commenced the hearing of an action brought by Messrs. Reeves & Sons, Ltd., artists' colourmen, of Ashwin Street, Dalston, London, who asked for an injunction to restrain Messrs. Boots Cash Chemists (Lancashire), Ltd., of Nottingham and elsewhere, from passing off certain goods as "Reeves'" students' colours which were not, it was alleged, in fact, plaintiffs' manufacture. Mr. Martelli, K.C., and Mr. Hedges appeared for Messrs. Reeves; and Mr. Romer, K.C., with Mr. Austin Cartmel, was for the defendants.

Mr. Martelli said the defendants in their statement denied that they had for some time past been in the habit of passing off other goods as Reeves', but they admitted that on January 4, 1911, the managers of the branch business at Lord Street, Southport (Miss Emily Mary Sehr), did inadvertently sell certain students' colours as Reeves', believing them to be the manufacture of plaintiffs when such was not the case. This particular purchase was made by Mr. William James Smart, managing clerk to the solicitors to the plaintiffs. Mr. Smart also made another purchase at Boots' Bold Street Liverpool branch, which was also the subject of this action, and a Miss Hilda Shaw, acting independently, made a purchase at the Southport branch, when, it was alleged, goods were passed off as Reeves'; but both these charges were denied. Counsel went on to speak about the Reeves' business, as well as the defendants'.

Mr. C. J. Wild, managing director of Messrs. Reeves, gave evidence in support of counsel's statement. Counsel was suggesting that a box of paints actually sold by Messrs. Boots was got up to resemble plaintiffs' boxes, when

His Lordship said he did not think it was competent for counsel to suggest that defendants were "passing off" by imitation.

Mr. Martelli argued that the defendants, by the way they got up the goods, and owing to the fact that they issued catalogues from which it might appear they were still stocking Messrs. Reeves' paints, made a mistake by their assistants almost inevitable.

In cross-examination, Mr. Romer asked: "Since 1905 have you not been on the look-out for some cause of

action against Messrs. Boots?" Witness: "I began to be exasperated in 1907." "Ever since July 1906 haven't you been anxious to get a conviction against Messrs. Boots?" "It was about that time that I began to get exasperated because of the constant complaints of passing-off."

Other evidence was given, and the hearing adjourned.

Merchandise Marks Act, 1887.

"PAREGORIC" WITHOUT OPIUM.

At the Birkenhead Police Court, before Dr. A. C. E. Harris and Mr. J. M. Kelly, on January 5, Richard Rueger, described as an analytical and manufacturing chemist, 389 New Chester Road, Rock Ferry, Birkenhead, was summoned, at the instance of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, for having unlawfully applied a false trade description to goods—viz., a liquid contained in a bottle labelled "Paregoric," the same not being in fact paregoric. He was also summoned for having sold the article. Defendant pleaded guilty.

Mr. W. Procter, barrister-at-law, stated on behalf of the Society that an inspector of the Society called at defendant's shop on November 15 and asked for "threepenny-worth of paregoric." He was supplied with a bottle labelled: "Paregoric—R. Rueger, chemist, analytical and manufacturing." The essential ingredient of paregoric is opium, and opium is a poison. Defendant, not being a registered chemist, is not entitled to sell poisons at all. It was first assumed that the article was paregoric, and therefore poisonous, and he was written to by the Society to the effect that as he is not a registered chemist and druggist proceedings might be instituted against him under the Pharmacy Acts for keeping open a shop for the sale of poisons. Defendant replied that he did not see how he was doing this. On November 23 the Society wrote a letter explaining, and intimated that his case would be placed before the Law Committee. On November 25 defendant wrote that the paregoric sold was "sine opio," and therefore not poisonous. He added that he was an analytical and manufacturing chemist and not a pharmaceutical chemist. The Society in its letter of reply stated that as the paregoric contained no opium he rendered himself liable to prosecution. Counsel pointed out the danger of administration of the real thing after people had got accustomed to the opiumless stuff, and said defendant was carrying on a dangerous trade, and he (Mr. Procter) asked the Bench to inflict such a penalty as would deter him and others from continuing such practices.

Evidence was given in support of counsel's statement by Arthur Foulds and Thomas Tickle, B.Sc., F.I.C. Replying to Dr. Harris, Mr. Tickle stated that the other ingredients of paregoric were present.

For the defence, defendant expressed his sorrow that the offence had been committed. He was under the impression that paregoric could be sold without opium if it was so stated on the label. It was the custom in drug-stores to do this, but his assistant neglected to do so in this case.

The Chairman said they looked upon the case as a very serious one, and to emphasise their view they would fine defendant 5*l.* and 5*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* (10*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* in all), with distress in default, or one month's imprisonment in the first case.

The second charge was withdrawn, and defendant was allowed a week to pay the fine and costs.

BANKRUPTCY REPORTS.

Re Wm. Rogers, 64 Church Street, Bilston, Chemist and Druggist.—This debtor came up for his public examination at the Wolverhampton Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. T. B. Cope, Registrar, on January 10. The liabilities amounted to 19*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*, and the failure was attributed to want of capital and bad trade. Replying to the Official Receiver, debtor stated that he started business on a capital of 11*l*5*s.* He had mortgaged his life interest in property left by his father to his bankers, to whom he owed money. He also handed over to them his life policy of 200*l.* Trade became very bad, and in May 1910 he found he was insolvent. Competition became very severe when the stores arrived, and his takings dropped by one-half—that

is, from 19*l.* or 20*l.* a week to 10*l.* or 11*l.* In addition, he had a leg broken, and was absent from the business for a time—The Registrar remarked that debtor appeared to have been handicapped by insufficient capital, and debtor said this was so. The examination was adjourned until February 7.

Re John George Driver, 70-72 St. Mary's Road, Garston, Liverpool, Chemist and Druggist.—The public examination of this debtor was held at the Court House, Victoria Street, Liverpool, on January 8. The debtor attributed his insolvency to trade and private expenses having exceeded his trade profits, and also to having borrowed money at interest. In reply to the Official Receiver, he stated that he began business some twenty-seven years ago at 70 St. Mary's Road, Garston, and about fourteen years ago took in the adjoining premises. At the start he had 150*l.* of his own, and he borrowed 600*l.*, of which 350*l.* is still owing. The stock and goodwill cost him 750*l.*, and he had since spent a good deal on the property. He had also spent about 350*l.* in connection with two proprietary articles—a meat-and-malt wine and a tamarind sauce. The liabilities amounted to 2,802*l.* and the assets to 1,061*l.* The unsecured liabilities for money borrowed amounted to 1,349*l.*, which included 1,299*l.* lent by his two sons, who, on attaining their majority, became entitled to legacies under their grandfather's will. The examination was adjourned to February 5, the debtor being ordered to file certain accounts.

Failures in 1911.—Mr. Richard Seyd, F.S.S., annually compiles a list of bankruptcies, deeds of arrangement, and Scotch trust deeds which have been recorded in the financial, wholesale, manufacturing, and retail branches of trades, as well as among the professional and working classes during the year. The figures for 1911 have just been issued, showing that as regards chemists' and druggists' businesses there were three bankruptcies and six deeds of arrangement in the wholesale, compared with nine in 1910 and thirteen in 1909. In the retail trade there were sixty-three bankruptcies and deeds, which is exactly the same number as in 1910; but last year there were twenty-four bankruptcies, compared with seventeen in 1910, and in 1909 twenty-six bankruptcies and thirty-nine deeds of arrangement, so that matters were about the same last year. Surgeons, physicians, and dentists figure to the number of fifty-seven, of which forty-four were bankruptcies and thirteen deeds; the total in 1910 was fifty-two and in 1909 sixty-five. It appears that when persons of these classes fail, the Bankruptcy Court is more often appealed to than is the case in the drug trade. The six most disastrous trading businesses are: (1) Grocers and provision dealers, 772 of whom in the retail section failed last year, as compared with 955 in 1910; (2) builders, 486; (3) drapers and hosiery, 372; (4) farmers, 368; (5) publicans, 335; and (6) tailors, 231. In the wholesale trades, engineers, founders, iron and metal merchants are easily first with 107 failures, and warehousemen and importers of foreign goods second with 102, the total in the wholesale businesses being 798, which is considerably worse than in 1910.

GAZETTE.

Partnerships Dissolved.

FOLEY, T. Mc., and FOLEY, D. H., Scarborough, physicians and surgeons.

GROWSE, W., M.R.C.S., and TWEEDY, R. C., M.R.C.S., Kenilworth, general medical practitioners, under the style of Growse & Tweedy.

HARTY, J. P. I., and BRUSHFIELD, A. N., Coronation Road, Halifax, and Whitegate View, Siddal, Halifax, surgeons and general medical practitioners, under the style of Harty & Brushfield.

HELM, W. A., and SMITH, W. S., Chorlton-cum-Hardy, general medical practitioners, under the style of Helm & Steele Smith.

JACKSON, H., JACKSON, H. S., and JACKSON, J. C., Brooks Alley and School Lane, Liverpool, wholesale dealers in druggists' sundries, under the style of Henry Jackson & Sons, as regards Mr. H. S. Jackson.

KIRBY, P. E., and MCKEE, S., Fenny Stratford, mineral-water manufacturers, under the style of Kirby & McKee. WARWICK, P., DE'NYSSSEN, P. J., and AYLEN, J., Halesworth, Suffolk, physicians, surgeons, accoucheurs, and apothecaries, under the style of Warwick, de'Nyssen & Ayley; so far as regards P. Warwick.

WHITE, F. H., and OTTER, M., Broadgate, Lincoln, mineral-water manufacturers, under the style of Parke & White.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATION.

SMITH, WILLIAM, The Manse, Potton, Bedfordshire, lately Alma Road, Winton, Bournemouth, medical practitioner.

LIMITED COMPANIES.

ANDOVER TRADING CO., LTD. (119,495) (P.C.)—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in artificial teeth, dental apparatus, surgical instruments, etc. The first directors are S. J. Bell, A. R. Goddard, and H. May.

NATIONAL FILTER CO., LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 4,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of the "National Filter Co.," carried on by E. M. Knight, H. Wallis, and S. Garcia at 57-58 Chancery Lane, W.C. The first directors are H. Wallis, S. Carrite, and E. M. Knight. R.O., as above.

DEARBORN, LTD. (P.C.)—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturing and wholesaling chemists and druggists, drysalters, etc., and to adopt an agreement with J. Van Tuyl Daniels, who is permanent governing director. R.O., 32-34 Theobalds Road, Holborn, W.C.

Company News.

W. J. BUSH & CO., LTD.—The directors have declared an interim dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum (less income-tax) on the ordinary shares for the past half-year.

ALWYN DYSON, LTD.—Messrs. J. W. Dyson, 22 Blacket Street, and W. C. Foster, 13 Grainger Street West, Newcastle-on-Tyne, ceased to act as receivers or managers on December 29, 1911.

NEW TRANSVAAL CHEMICAL CO., LTD.—The directors have declared a dividend of 25 per cent. for the past year, placing 10,000*l.* to reserve and 10,622*l.* to depreciation, leaving 6,235*l.* to be carried forward.

UNITED DRUG CO., LTD.—Rumours to the effect that this company has purchased eight pharmacies in Islington, Oxford Street, Regent Street, and Piccadilly, London, are incorrect. The company contemplates taking a large central shop to fit up as a model of a "merchandising" pharmacy, in which besides their medicinal and toilet specialities, a feature will be made of the sale of high-class sweets and perfume. Mr. Liggett, President of the company, is to visit London this month in connection with the business.

PARKE'S DRUG STORES, LTD.—The report which is to be presented to the shareholders at the annual meeting on January 18 states that the Lewisham branch has been closed upon the disposal of the lease. After meeting the sum required for the depreciation of leases (524*l.* 12s. 10*d.*) and repairs and renewals (97*l.* 14s. 7*d.*), and placing 412*l.* 11s. 2*d.* to the fixture depreciation and reserve fund and 300*l.* to the stock reserve fund, a net balance for the year remains of 2,614*l.* 18s. 9*d.*, out of which the interim dividend on the preference shares at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum has been paid. It is now recommended to pay a final dividend of 5 per cent. on the preference shares, leaving a balance of 233*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* to be carried forward to next account. No dividend is recommended on the ordinary shares. The reserve fund stands at 13,402*l.* 19s. 11*d.* From the profit-and-loss account it appears that the trading profit was 6,568*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, and the cost of management, including directors' fees, salaries, advertising, and general expenses, was 3,147*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*

Charges or Mortgages.

Under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908, Section 93, the mortgages or charges therein specified are (except in Scotland) void against the liquidator and any creditor of the company unless filed with the Registrar in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Act.

Full statutory particulars of the following have been filed at Somerset House, London, W.C.

East Moors Chemical Co., Ltd.—Charge on East Moor Chemical Works, East Moors, Cardiff, dated November 27, 1911, to secure not more than 1,000*l.* Holders: Metropolitan Bank (of England and Wales), Ltd.

Marsol, Ltd.—Debenture dated October 3, 1911, to secure 55*l.*, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital and book debts or orders in hand. Holder: R. F. Yeo, 31 Budge Row, E.C.

O. Phelps Brown, Ltd.—Debenture dated November 3, 1911, to secure 150*l.* charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Holder: G. H. Tilley, Darien, Connecticut, U.S.A.

Sanatik, Ltd.—Debenture dated November 2, 1911, to secure 15,000*l.* charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Holder: Mrs. C. E. Marr, 24 Tow Road West, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

BIRTHS.

COLE.—At Greenfield House, Cavan, on January 1, the wife of J. J. Cole, Ph.C., of a son.

TOMPKINS.—At New Southgate, London, N., on January 4, the wife of Martin J. Tompkins, youngest son of Mr. James Tompkins, rubber manufacturer, 386 City Road, E.C., of a son.

DEATHS.

FURNESS.—At Jersey House, Chesterfield, on January 9, Mr. Thomas Furness, chemist and dentist, aged sixty-one. His father was a large landowner at Stoney Middleton, and Mr. Thomas Furness was apprenticed to the drug-trade, passing the Minor in 1877, and afterwards taking the L.D.S. He was in business at Chesterfield for about thirty years, but did not take part in public matters. He leaves a widow, four sons (two of whom succeed him in his business and practice), and a daughter. The funeral took place on January 12, when the Chesterfield Pharmacists' Association was represented.

GERMANN.—At Basle, Switzerland, on January 1, Mr. Georg Germann, delegate of the Board of Management of the Gesellschaft für Chemische Industrie in Basle, Switzerland.

JEX-BLAKE.—At Windydene, Mark Cross, Sussex, on January 7, Dr. Sophia Jex-Blake, leader of the women's medical training movement at Edinburgh University of over forty years ago. Dr. Jex-Blake attended, during 1865 in New York, the lectures of Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, the pioneer lady doctor, and in 1868 she returned to England in order to qualify. At that time the medical schools would not admit women, and although Miss Elizabeth Garrett, afterwards Dr. Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, succeeded in getting the Society of Apothecaries to recognise her private studies, that body resolved not to do so in the case of others. In 1869 the University of London authorities informed Miss Jex-Blake that their charter was expressly worded to exclude women who applied for admission, and her application at Edinburgh was refused by the University Court. Miss Jex-Blake and other friends finally succeeded in getting the regulations of Edinburgh University altered so as to admit women being trained in separate classes. The success of the female students in the class examinations led to ill-feeling, and their application for permission to attend the wards led to rioting and prohibition of the attendance of ladies at the lectures at the Surgeons' Hall. Proceedings against the University Senatus having failed, in 1874 Miss Jex-Blake came to London and took a leading part in establishing the London School of Medicine for Women. In 1877 she obtained her M.D. at Berne University, while in the previous year Parliament passed an Act allowing medical examining bodies to admit women candidates to their examinations. Dr. Jex-Blake became a licentiate of the King and Queen's College of Physicians, Dublin (the first to take advantage of the Act), in 1877. Dr. Jex-Blake began to practise in Edinburgh in 1878, retiring in 1899. While at Edinburgh she founded the Edinburgh School of Medicine for Women and opened a dispensary, which afterwards became the Cottage Hospital.

LAW.—At Belmont, Forfar, on January 7, Mary Littlejohn, widow of Mr. Wm. Law, druggist, aged eighty-four. Mr. Law died about forty years ago.

MARLEY.—At 3 Hawthorn Gardens, Monkseaton, on January 9, Mr. William Marley, of Messrs. Marley & Russell, chemists, 124 and 126 Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Mr. Marley, who was in business prior to the Pharmacy Act of 1868, had been ill for about three months. The funeral took place at Preston Cemetery, North Shields, on January 12.

MCNAUGHTON.—At Ivybank, Port Glasgow, on January 6, Peter, only son of Mr. James McNaughton, chemist, Port Glasgow, aged twenty-four.

WINTER.—On December 3, after a short illness, Mr. J. W. Winter, chemist and druggist, Barberton, Transvaal. Mr. Winter had been in business at Barberton for many years and was one of its most prominent men.

TRADE NOTES.

"PRESCRIBER, EDINBURGH; Nat. Tel. 2387 Central" should be added to our *Diary* list of telegraphic addresses and telephone numbers, p. 194.

"EN-GE." — The Nitsche & Gunther Optical Co., Ltd., 66 Hatton Garden, London, E.C., issue a special brochure of optical display stands and sets. The booklet contains illustrations in delicate half-tones of these excellent aids to advertising, to which the attention of chemist-opticians is specially drawn.

"THE CHEMICAL WORLD" is the title of a monthly journal of chemistry and chemical engineering which is being published by Messrs. J. & A. Churchill, 7 Great Marlborough Street, London, W. It is edited by Mr. W. P. Dreaper, F.I.C., F.C.S., and the first issue contains contributions by many well-known chemists. One feature of the paper is that serial articles will subsequently be published in book form.

"MODERN RETAILING" is the title of an advertising periodical which has just been published by the National Cash Register Co., Ltd., for shopkeepers, assistants, and customers. It is an eight-page paper with cover printed in black and cardinal red, the page measuring 12 by 9 in. It is a brightly written and well-illustrated production, one of the most interesting pages being that devoted to the growth of the company's factories from the time in 1884, when the factory consisted of one room, to the present day, when the headquarters have thirty-six acres of floor space and employ 7,000 people. A copy of "Modern Retailing" can be obtained free by applying to the company at 225 Tottenham Court Road, London, W.

MESSRS. ALFRED COOK & CO., Great Eastern Works, Enfield, Middlesex, are again offering a number of drugists' sundries at 2½ per cent. discount from their net cash sale price-list. The sale is being inaugurated this week, and it comprises indiarubber goods, such as enema apparatus, douches, syringes of all kinds, spray-producers for medicinal solutions, as well as for perfumes, glass douches, camel-hair pencils, finger-stalls, feeding-bottles, ointment pots, thermometers, and many other kinds of goods are included in the price-list, a copy of which can be obtained on application to the firm at the above address. We have had the opportunity of perusing a number of letters that Messrs. Alfred Cook & Co. have received quite recently from chemists expressing satisfaction with the goods supplied by the firm, who make it their business maxim to buy for cash and sell for cash.

BOVRIL BONUS PICTURES.—Bovril, Ltd., 152 to 166 Old Street, London, E.C., are continuing their policy of offering engravings as a bonus on the purchase of bovril. This year a choice is given of three pictures. The *chef d'œuvre* is a fine picture measuring 40 in. by 30 in., entitled "The Pilgrims." This is by Mr. A. A. Dixon, and represents a scene which must have been common in mediæval times in this country of a pilgrimage of monks. A group of three monks in white habits is seen proceeding down the cobbled street of an old town, and the artist has given himself a free hand in portraying the monks, so that the ascetic, the self-satisfied, and the cunning varieties are skilfully limned in the faces. There is plenty of character also in the passers-by. Altogether this is one of the most interesting of the long series which have been issued by Bovril, Ltd., and strikes a fresh note in the subjects which have so far been treated. Two smaller pictures are also issued, entitled "An Idyll" and "The Joy of Spring." These measure 22 in. by 30 in., and are equal in coupon value to the large picture. The conditions are that persons desiring to possess the pictures must present coupons to the aggregate face-value of 21s., these coupons being enclosed until June 29 with every package of bovril in the proportion of one in each 6½d. size. These conditions are advertised to the public, and the chemist shares in the increased sale of bovril which is brought about by this advertising scheme.

CHARLES DICKENS' CHRISTMAS BOOKS are among the most beloved of Dickensiana, for young and old delight in reading them, and Messrs. A. & F. Pears, Ltd., New Oxford Street, London, W.C., have done a distinct ser-

vice to literature by their production of a Centenary Edition, aptly and charmingly illustrated. The late Mr. Charles Green, R.I., drew the illustrations for "A Christmas Carol," "The Chimes," "The Haunted Man," and "The Battle of Life," about thirty being in each volume, and Mr. L. Rossi has supplied twenty-two illustrations for "The Cricket on the Hearth." Each book is small quarto in format, the type has a good sharp face and is easily read, and Mr. Clement K. Shorter supplies an introduction to each of the tales. This he does in his well-known chatty and informative style, taking the reader back to the production of the tale, so that one feels almost in the little circle of famous men who discussed the effect that the tale would have on the public in carrying out Dickens' idea of restoring to English life the old Christmas good-feeling. Mr. Shorter also tells the history of each book, mentions the stage productions, and estimates the cost of each volume at 5s., but Messrs. A. & F. Pears, Ltd., sell at 1s. 6d. net. Of course, the company has produced the series as an advertisement for Pears's soap, and they do this so that the artistic character of the volumes is enhanced by the pretty end-pages in black and crimson, which bear the ads. The volumes are bound in cloth, with a medallion of the "Bubbles" boy in the centre of the front cover. Every Dickens lover will no doubt secure a set, and chemists might be the medium of supply.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. T. C. WOODE has opened a pharmacy at 12 Kissy Road, Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa.

BOOTS, LTD., have taken premises at Enfield, London, N., which are to be opened as a branch on completion of alterations.

MR. J. BARKER, chemist and druggist, has transferred his business from 63 Devana Road, Leicester, to the Evington Road Pharmacy, Leicester.

MR. W. GATEHOUSE, who recently took over the business of Sindalls', 3 Wood Hill, Northampton, has removed to 10 St. Giles' Square, Northampton.

MR. LESLIE D. INMAN, chemist and druggist, son of the late Mr. James H. Inman, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, is opening a high-class pharmacy at 8 Cambridge Crescent, Harrogate.

MR. GEORGE NICHOLSON, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of the late Mr. T. S. Flower, at 13 Pier Street, Ryde, I.W., with which he has been associated for over six years.

THE BUSINESS at 9 Parkhurst Road, Holloway, London, N., carried on by Mr. J. S. Laing, chemist and druggist, for nearly twenty years, and recently by Mr. J. Emsley, chemist and druggist, has been closed.

MR. G. C. JEEVES, chemist and druggist, who for some years was assistant to Mr. A. W. Waring, chemist and dentist, 3 Bucklersbury, London, E.C., has opened "The Central Pharmacy," 1 Tonnage Street, Lowestoft.

MR. SIDNEY RICHARDSON, wholesale optician, and London agent for several American manufacturing opticians, has removed from Henrietta Street, W.C., to 36 Hatton Garden, London, E.C. The opportunity has been taken to instal new machinery in the workshops.

MESSRS. SCHIMMEL & CO., Miltitz, near Leipzig, announce that Mr. Johannes Paul Fritzsche has severed his connection with the firm, and that Mr. Hermann Traugott Fritzsche has been admitted a partner. Mr. Hermann Breitenstein, formerly manager of the firm's London office, has been given power of attorney.

MR. H. P. WITHERS, chemist and druggist, Blackpool, retired from business with the close of 1911. The Central Beach Pharmacy, which Mr. Withers conducted successfully for twenty-five years, has been taken over by his former assistant, Mr. R. Hayton Speight, chemist and druggist.

National Insurance Act.

A N octavo edition of this Act has been published at 8d. It is a handier size than the ordinary form (1s. 3d.), but is in smaller type. It can be obtained from the Government publishers, or through booksellers.

We still have on hand a number of reprints of the Medical Benefit Section of the Act, which we can send to any subscriber who sends us a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose. A halfpenny stamp only is required. Mark the outside envelope "Insurance," and address to The Editor, C. & D., 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

THE COMMISSIONERS AT WORK.

The Government have taken over the Wellington House Hotel, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W., and it is understood that the building will be used as offices for the Insurance Commissioners. The hotel, which was built about two and a half years ago, cost 55,000*l.* It contains 200 rooms. The Commissioners have been taking evidence from Friendly Societies' representatives and others during the past week.

PUBLICATIONS.

"After the passing into law of an Act of Parliament wholly subversive of the established order of things, there 'inevitably follows a flood of literature,'" says Mr. Thomas Smith, Barrister-at-law, in the preface to his "Everybody's Guide to the National Insurance Act," published this week at 1s. net by Messrs. Chas. Knight & Co., Ltd. Mr. Smith has written a very good book, extending to 304 pages, and including the text of the Act. He deals fairly with the whole of the provisions, and in regard to medical benefit gives a lot of useful information; for example, the names of the principal Medical Associations which have been established by Friendly Societies with the names of the medical officers, dispensers, and secretaries. These are the bodies for whom Mr. Harmsworth secured his amendment. Dealing with the provisions to be made by Insurance Committees for the supply of drugs, medicines, and prescribed appliances, Mr. Smith says:

"The insured person will be enabled to take his prescription to any pharmacist, or any person or firm who is on the panel, and any properly qualified person or firm shall, as in the case of the doctors, have a right to appear on such panel, except where the Commissioners are of opinion that the persons or firms on the list are not such as to secure an adequate and reasonable supply of drugs; in such cases they may authorise the Insurance Committee to make such other arrangements as they may approve."

We give this as a specimen of the author's style. The financial provisions are very fully dealt with, the information including a series of tables of figures on which the benefits of the Bill were based.

Mr. Ellingham Wilson, 54 Threadneedle Street, E.C., announces that a Guide to the National Insurance Act, 1911, by Mr. H. Wippell Gadd, Barrister-at-law, will be ready shortly. It is to cost 1s. net.

Medical Benefit in Germany.

The following observations are particularly pertinent at present. In Germany the State Insurance Scheme is managed locally by Sick Clubs, which employés join:

Each German sick club is entirely self-governing, and the board of the club make arrangements with one or more medical practitioners, according to the number of members, to attend to the insured in time of sickness. Doctors who attend to ordinary cases of sickness and perform only minor operations are paid on an average at the rate of 3s. 8d. to 4s. per annum per head of the insured; if the treatment of the insured person's family is included, this sum is increased to about 10s., but this applies only to a small proportion of the total number of clubs. The insured person is usually permitted to choose his medical attendant for each year, while other clubs allow their members to change doctors in every case of sickness. The *per capita* equivalent is paid to each doctor, or the medical fees are handed over to the local medical organisation, which then divides them among the club doctors in accordance with certain rules; for instance, the doctor is credited with a

varying number of points for each case he attends, and the value of these points is determined by the organisation.

In addition to these regular club doctors, each sick club makes arrangements with a certain number of specialists (eye, throat, stomach, etc.). For these an official scale of fees is provided.

The future of hospitals under the British Insurance Act has been the subject of considerable discussion, as fears are entertained that the subscriptions by HOSPITALS. which these are maintained may be curtailed. In Germany the hospitals are either Government or municipal institutions, and are run on practically the same lines as any other form of municipal or State enterprise. Thus, patients in a position to pay are made to pay according to a sliding scale to suit various purses. Sick-club patients are charged on an average at the rate of 2s. per day; this amount includes not only full treatment, but covers the cost of the performance of any surgical operations and the supply of medicine.

The average cost of medical attendance per head of the insured in Germany amounts to 5s. 9d. for sick-club doctor and specialist. The cost of hospital

MEDICAL ATTENDANCE treatment averages 3s. 4d. *per capita*, of which one-third is assumed to represent the Cost. cost of medical attendance or surgical treatment. These figures show that in

Germany the cost of medical treatment extended to the insured amounts to 6s. 10d. per head. Medicines are in addition.

Dispensing by doctors in Germany is forbidden, and all prescriptions have to be made up in a pharmacy. Only

COST OF MEDICINES. a relatively small number of large hospitals are permitted to have their own pharmacy, which must be under the management of a

qualified apotheker and is subject to the same Government inspection as ordinary pharmacies; in other institutions the drugs have to be purchased from a local pharmacy. In the case of prescriptions for members of sick clubs a rebate of 10 to 15 per cent. is granted on the charges of the official prescription tariff, and usually an arrangement is made whereby certain simple remedies, such as cod-liver oil, castor oil, iron tonics, boric acid ointment, liniments, Blaud's pills, etc., are charged according to a special tariff agreed upon between the pharmacists and the boards of the sick clubs in the State or within the province. As about one-fifth of the entire population of the German Empire is insured against sickness, sick-club dispensing forms a large percentage of the work done and profit made in every pharmacy. The cost per head of the insured for medicine, etc., amounts to 3s. 7d., so that the total expenditure *per capita* under the heading of medical benefit in Germany is nearly double Mr. Lloyd George's estimate for the same provision in Great Britain.

The expenditure for medical benefit has increased in Germany by 165 per cent. for treatment and 110 per cent. for medicines during the past twenty-five

HOW IT GREW. years, while the cost of hospital treatment has increased by 122 per cent. since 1892.

When compulsory insurance was introduced in 1885, the *per capita* expenditure for medical attendance amounted to 3s. 10d. and for medicines 1s. 9d.

At present the German working classes contribute annually 15,642,756*l.* for insurance against sickness, disablement, and old-age pensions. In addition

EFFECT ON PRODUCTION. employers pay 9,273,927*l.*, besides 8,112,471*l.* of premiums against accidents, a total charge to employers of 17,386,398*l.* annually.

The new law regarding the compulsory insurance of higher-grade employés, with incomes under 250*l.*, is estimated to entail a further charge of about 3,750,000*l.* for each party concerned; while the rise in the income-limit of insurance against sickness and the increase in the contributions for invalidity insurance will result in a further aggregate expenditure amounting to 6,300,000*l.*, to be borne by employers and employés. The Imperial revenue now contributes only 2,550,000*l.* towards invalidity and old-age pensions; this charge will shortly be increased by another 1,370,000*l.* The German nation thus contributes annually the sum of 35,579,154*l.* for National Insurance, and after next year the amount will be 50,749,154*l.*

The Shops Act, 1911.

THE text of this Act can now be obtained through any bookseller for 2½d. It contains 17 sections and 3 schedules. We subjoin the sections or parts of sections which directly affect the retail drug-trade, as well as the First Schedule (meal hours) and part of the Second (exempted trades) :

HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT AND MEAL TIMES.

1.—(1) On at least one week day in each week a shop assistant shall not be employed about the business of a shop after half-past one o'clock in the afternoon:

Provided that this provision shall not apply to the week preceding a bank holiday if the shop assistant is not employed on the bank holiday, and if on one week day in the following week in addition to the bank holiday the employment of the shop assistant ceases not later than half-past one o'clock in the afternoon.

(2) Intervals for meals shall be allowed to each shop assistant in accordance with the First Schedule to this Act.

(3) The occupier of a shop shall fix, and shall specify in a notice in the prescribed form, which must be affixed in the shop in such manner and at such time as may be prescribed, the day of the week on which his shop assistants are not employed after half-past one o'clock, and may fix different days for different shop assistants.

WEEKLY HALF-HOLIDAY CLOSING.

2.—(1) Every shop shall, save as otherwise provided by this Act, be closed for the serving of customers not later than one o'clock in the afternoon on one week day in every week.

(2) The local authority may, by order, fix the day on which a shop is to be so closed (in this Act referred to as the weekly half-holiday), and any such order may either fix the same day for all shops, or may fix—

- (a) different days for different classes of shops; or
- (b) different days for different parts of the district; or
- (c) different days for different periods of the year:

Provided that—

(1) where the day fixed is a day other than Saturday, the order shall provide for enabling Saturday to be substituted for such other day; and

(2) where the day fixed is Saturday, the order shall provide for enabling some other day specified in the order to be substituted for Saturday;

as respects any shop in which notice to that effect is affixed by the occupier, and that no such order shall be made unless the local authority after making such inquiry as may be prescribed are satisfied that the occupiers of a majority of each of the several classes of shops affected by the order approve the order.

(3) Unless and until such an order is made affecting a shop, the weekly half-holiday as respects the shop shall be such day as the occupier may specify in a notice affixed in the shop, but it shall not be lawful for the occupier of the shop to change the day oftener than once in any period of three months.

(4) Where the local authority have reason to believe that a majority of the occupiers of shops of any particular class in any area are in favour of being exempted from the provisions of this section, either wholly or by fixing as the closing hour instead of one o'clock some other hour not later than two o'clock, the local authority, unless they consider that the area in question is unreasonably small, shall take steps to ascertain the wishes of such occupiers, and, if they are satisfied that a majority of the occupiers of such shops are in favour of the exemption, or, in the case of a vote being taken, that at least one-half of the votes recorded by the occupiers of shops within the area of the class in question are in favour of the exemption, the local authority shall make an order exempting the shops of that class within the area from the provisions of this section either wholly or to such extent as aforesaid.

(5) Where a shop is closed during the whole day on the occasion of a bank holiday, and that day is not the day fixed for the weekly half-holiday, it shall be lawful for the occupier of the shop to keep the shop open for the serving of customers after the hour at which it is required under this section to be closed either on the half-holiday immediately preceding, or on the half-holiday immediately succeeding, the bank holiday.

(6) This section shall not apply to any shop in which a trade or business of any class mentioned in the Second Schedule to this Act is carried on, but the local authority may, by order made and revocable in like manner as closing orders, extend the provisions of this section to shops of any

class exempted under this provision if satisfied that the occupiers of at least two-thirds of the shops of that class approve the order.

(7) The power under the Shop Hours Act, 1904, to fix a closing hour earlier than seven o'clock, shall cease to have effect, and any closing order which is in force at the commencement of this Act shall cease to have effect in so far as it fixes an hour earlier than seven o'clock for any shop to which this section applies.

TRADING ELSEWHERE THAN IN SHOPS.

4.—Subject to any provisions contained in a closing order, it shall not be lawful in any locality to carry on in any place not being a shop retail trade or business of any class at any time when it would be unlawful in that locality to keep a shop open for the purposes of retail trade or business of that class. . . .

SHOPS DOING MORE THAN ONE TRADE.

5.—(1) Where several trades or businesses are carried on in the same shop, and any of those trades or businesses is of such a nature that, if it were the only trade or business carried on in the shop, the shop would be exempt from the obligation to be closed on the weekly half-holiday, the exemption shall apply to the shop so far as the carrying on of that trade or business is concerned, subject, however, to such conditions as may be prescribed.

HOLIDAY RESORTS.

6.—(1) In places frequented as holiday resorts during certain seasons of the year the local authority may by order suspend, for such period or periods as may be specified in the order, not exceeding in the aggregate four months in any year, the obligation imposed by this Act to close shops on the weekly half-holiday.

OFFENCES.

8.—(1) If a shop assistant is employed contrary to the provisions of this Act, or is not allowed times for meals as required by this Act, the occupier of the shop shall be guilty of an offence against this Act, unless, in the case of a shop-assistant employed after half-past one o'clock in contravention of this Act, he proves that the shop assistant was employed merely for the purpose of serving a customer whom he was serving at that time, or that that time coincided with the time of the closing of the shop, and that the shop assistant was employed merely for the purpose of serving customers who were in the shop at that time.

(2) If a shop is kept open on the weekly half-holiday, the occupier of the shop shall be guilty of an offence against this Act:

Provided that the occupier of a shop shall not be guilty of an offence against this Act when a customer is served at any time at which the shop is required to be closed, if he proves either that the customer was in the shop before the time when the shop was required to be closed, or that there was reasonable ground for believing that the article supplied to the customer was required in the case of illness.

INTERPRETATION.

14. In this Act the expression "shop" includes any premises where any retail trade or business is carried on;

The expression "shop assistant" means any person wholly or mainly employed in a shop in connection with the serving of customers or the receipt of orders or the despatch of goods.

IRELAND.

16. This Act shall apply to Ireland subject to the following modifications:

(4) This Act shall not extend to any rural district or part of a rural district, and nothing in this Act shall affect the powers or duties, under the Shops Regulation Acts, 1892 to 1904, of the commissioners of any town or township not being an urban district:

(5) In the case of a shop assistant employed in a shop in which the business of the sale by retail of intoxicating liquors is carried on, section one of this Act shall not apply, but, instead thereof, the following provisions shall have effect:

The text at this point may be summarised:

(a) Assistant to be employed not more than seventy-two hours a week, exclusive of meal times; (b) of two hours each week day; (c) this fact to be notified in the shop by the occupier; (d) with ninety hours overtime a year; (e) reckoned in half-hours; (f) not less than seven hours holiday on one day per week; (g) one week's holiday a year after two months' service; (h) the half-holiday being disallowed to other assistants when one is away on annual holiday; and (i) no deduction from salaries is to be made for holidays.

INTERVALS FOR MEALS.

(Schedule 1).

Intervals for meals shall be arranged so as to secure that no person shall be employed for more than six hours without an interval of at least twenty minutes being allowed during the course thereof.

Without prejudice to the foregoing provision—

(1) where the hours of employment include the hours from 11.30 A.M. to 2.30 P.M., an interval of not less than three-quarters of an hour shall be allowed between those hours for dinner; and

(2) where the hours of employment include the hours from 4 P.M. to 7 P.M., an interval of not less than half-an-hour shall be allowed between those hours for tea; and the interval for dinner shall be increased to one hour in cases where that meal is not taken in the shop, or in a building of which the shop forms part or to which the shop is attached:

Provided that an assistant employed in the sale of refreshments or in the sale by retail of intoxicating liquors need not be allowed the interval for dinner between 11.30 A.M. and 2.30 P.M., if he is allowed the same interval so arranged as either to end not earlier than 11.30 A.M. or to commence not later than 2.30 P.M., and the same exemption shall apply to assistants employed in any shop on the market day in any town in which a market is held not oftener than once a week, or on a day on which an annual fair is held.

(Schedule 2.)

The trades and businesses exempted from the provisions of this Act as to weekly half-holiday include :

The sale of refreshments, including the business carried on at a railway refreshment room.

The sale of newspapers and periodicals.

The sale of tobacco and smokers' requisites.

The sale of medicines and medical and surgical appliances.

Retail trade carried on at an exhibition or show, if the local authority certify that such retail trade is subsidiary or ancillary only to the main purpose of the exhibition or show.

Readers are advised to compare the foregoing with the law of shops given on p. 450 of *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*. The Act comes into force on May 1.

POISONING FATALITIES.

TWELVE deaths resulting from the taking of poisons have been reported since our last issue. In one case death was due to misadventure.

Carbolic Acid was used for purposes of self-destruction by George Laker, gardener, Dorman's Land, Surrey.

Laudanum was taken for suicidal purposes by Henry Hatley (42), master blacksmith, Nottingham, and George Lenthall (64), chimney sweep, Brampton.—At the resumed inquest at Hucknall on the child Joseph Cecil Bird, the jury, after some deliberation, returned a verdict that death was due to laudanum-poisoning, but that the evidence was not sufficiently conclusive to show how and under what circumstances the laudanum was administered or taken.—We noted last week (index folio 24) the death of John Thomas Stapleforth (67) from an overdose of laudanum. At the inquest it was stated that deceased had been advised by a doctor to take opium for delirium tremens. His sister stated that the doctor injected morphia when her brother was ill, and that afterwards he took up the habit. He has taken as much as 3 oz. of laudanum and again 64 grains of opium twice a day. He obtained it on a doctor's prescription. This had been going on for twenty years. Of late efforts had been made to combat the habit, and the dose of opium had been reduced to 16 grains three times a day. The Coroner at one stage held up a large bottle nearly full of opium, and remarked: "I cannot think he could have obtained such a large quantity as this on a prescription." Mr. Frank Tupholme, Ph.C., 1 Colchester Terrace, Earl's Court, S.W., said during the fifteen years he had known the deceased he had supplied him with opium. He used to write asking for 8 oz., and witness would supply it because the deceased knew how to weigh it, and the danger of taking too much. Deceased said that he was gradually reducing the doses. In reply to the Coroner, the witness said that opium came under the First Part of the Poisons Schedule now, and he had entered the letter and attached it to his book. He produced the last letter from the deceased, dated May, and said that there was no restriction on the quantity he was allowed to sell. The Coroner: You exercised your discretion by supplying him with 8 oz. bottles?—Yes. The Coroner: Then the sooner the law is altered the better. The

Coroner, in summing up, condemned the practice of chemists selling drugs in such a wholesale manner, and thought legislation should be introduced to stop it. Mr. Tupholme's poison register had been sent for, and, inspecting it, the Coroner admitted that the requirements of the law had been complied with. The jury returned a verdict of death from misadventure, and added a rider censuring the chemist for supplying such a large quantity of a drug at one time. The Coroner: He was quite within his right; it was a matter for his discretion.

Potassium Cyanide.—At Birmingham, Alfred Rogers (34), clerk, met his death through drinking some potassium-cyanide solution while doing some photographic work. A verdict of death from misadventure was returned at the inquest.

Prussic Acid.—After an investigation occupying some weeks, the jury returned a verdict of "Suicide" by prussic-acid poisoning, "during temporary insanity," on Major J. Tertius Wood, formerly of a Lancashire regiment, residing at Ashton-on-Mersey, near Manchester.

Spirit of Salt.—"Felo de se" was the verdict found at the inquest on Philip Pritchard (49), collier, Bradford, Manchester, who drank some spirit of salt and afterwards jumped into a canal. According to medical evidence, deceased died from pneumonia and exhaustion following corrosive poisoning.

Vitriol and Tartar Emetic were taken with fatal effect at Fivemiletown, co. Tyrone, by Samuel McKeown (62). At the inquest the verdict was "Felo de se."

Kind Not Stated.—At Hanley, Thomas Hull, sailor, of Fleetwood, took a draught of poison while visiting some friends. He died soon afterwards.

The Shorthand-type-dispenser.

[“Wanted, by a doctor, a smart Boy for Typing and Shorthand. He will be taught dispensing.”—Advt. in “Grimsby Daily Telegraph.”]

Our Tommy was typist, and
He put his whole soul in it,
He took up Shorthand, and could write
Full sixty words a minute.

He studied hard and soon became
A Pitman-bred polemist,
Who scorned the Art of Grocery,
And the lowly Trade of Chemist.

Much higher his ambition soared,
So, fickle Fortune fencing,
He started off to Grimsby town,
Where he might learn “dispensing.”

A mixing up of this and that;
A word on bottle-wiping;
A hint on when to seek the fee;
Much easier that than typing.

So expert Tommy soon became,
That, type-machine forsaking,
He gaily trod the primrose path
Of Broadbent and of Laking.

* * * * *

The moral for all readers is
The utter unimportance
Of pharmacy to doctors who
Seek typists for their sorcery.

Mr. WILLIAM LATHAM PARKER, Lenton House, Ilkeston, chemist, who died on September 27, left estate valued at 1,529^l. gross, with net personality 189^l.

THE VIDAL DYES appeal case was commenced before the Master of the Rolls and Lords Justices Fletcher Moulton and Buckley on Thursday.

THE IMPORTS of drugs and chemicals into the Australian Commonwealth during the eight months ending August 1911 amounted to 745,000^l, against 690,000^l. in 1910 and 638,000^l. in 1909.

"MORE TRADE SECRETS" is the title of a series of pictures now appearing in "Punch." This week's one shows a prosperous-looking man and a workman in a cellar, with wording as follows:

Manager (examining bottle of lemon-squash, chemically produced): "You've forgotten to put the accidental pip in the bottle, William. Be more careful in future."

SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS.

Temperatures under this heading are on the Centigrade scale.

Clavicepsin, $C_{18}H_{34}O_{16} \cdot 2H_2O$, is a new glucoside isolated by Zuco and Pasquero from *Secale cornutum*. It forms acicular crystals melting at 91° , or when anhydrous at 198° . The specific rotation of the glucoside is $+142^\circ$. On hydrolysis it yields two molecules of dextrose and one of mannitol.

Coryanthine.—At the last meeting of the Chemical Society of France, a paper was read by Fourneau and Fiore, in which they show that coryanthine, the alkaloid of a pseudo-cinchona, is an isomer of yohimbine, of the formula $C_{21}H_{21}N_2O_3$. Yohimbine is dextrorotatory, while coryanthine is levorotatory.

Cholesterin Chemistry.—Steinkopf and Blümner ("Jour. Prakt. Chem." 1911, 460) have prepared several new ethers of cholesterol. By the action of benzyl chloride on cholesterol-sodium they have obtained the benzyl ether of cholesterol, melting at 118.5° and having a specific rotation -26° . By the interaction of cholesterol chloride and phenol-sodium they obtained phenyl-cholesterol ether, melting at 157.5° and having a specific rotation -34.8° . The corresponding cresyl ether melts at 154.5° and has a specific rotation -33° .

Patchouli Oil.—De Jong contributes a note to the current issue of the "Recueil des Trav. Chim. des Pays Bas" (1911, p. 211) on this oil. Dealing first with Singapore patchouli oil, he finds that the optical rotation (100 mm.) of five samples distilled by himself varied only from $-25^\circ 1'$ to $-26^\circ 45'$. The age of the leaf makes very little difference to the yield of oil. He points out that text-books usually state that the essential oil of patchouli is formed during the fermentation of the leaves. However, he shows conclusively that this is not the case, and gives the following optical rotations for the two fractions of the distillate from fresh, fermented, and dried leaves:

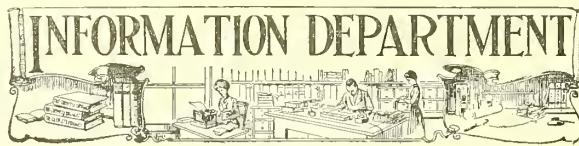
| | 1 | 2 |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Fresh ... | $-15^\circ 20'$ | $-15^\circ 4'$ |
| Fermented ... | $-0^\circ 20'$ | $-27^\circ 42'$ |
| Dried ... | $+9^\circ 34'$ | $-31^\circ 10'$ |

The Analysis of Liquorice.—L. and J. Gadair ("Ann. de Chim. Analyt." 1911, 418) recommend the following method for the determination of glycyrrhizin: Five grams of the sample is dissolved in 50 c.c. of hot water, the solution allowed to cool, and the volume adjusted to 50 c.c.; 100 c.c. of alcohol is then added, and the whole allowed to stand for twenty-four hours. The supernatant liquid is decanted, the last portion being filtered, the insoluble matter being washed with 70-per-cent. alcohol. The filtrate and washings are evaporated to 25 c.c. and cooled, and diluted with water to 50 c.c.; 5 c.c. of water containing 1.8 c.c. of strong HCl is then added, and the whole allowed to stand for twelve hours. The supernatant liquid is then decanted, when the precipitated glycyrrhizin will be found adhering to the beaker. Wash three times with 10 c.c. of ice-cold water, add 0.5 c.c. of ammonia, dry and weigh in the beaker, as ammonium glycyrrhizate.

Detection of Bismuth and Mercury.—Dr. C. McKenzie and O. Willgerodt, in a recent communication to the Society of Chemical Industry of Victoria in regard to "Formaldehyde as a Reagent in Analytical Chemistry, especially for the Detection of Bismuth and Mercury," recommend that a little strong solution of caustic soda or potash be added to the solution to be tested, along with the few drops of formaldehyde. If bismuth is present a black precipitate of metallic bismuth is frequently formed immediately, owing to the rise in temperature caused by introducing the reagents, but gentle heating over a gas-flame suffices to produce it. The reaction is very sensitive. The presence of traces of copper vitiates the reaction slightly, but not sufficiently to necessitate its separation; other metals (except mercury, silver, platinum, and gold) are innocuous. The reaction may also be used for the detection of mercury (reduction occurring in the cold), the precipitated mercury showing a good tendency to subside and collect in minute globules.

Egyptian Hashish.—Mr. A. Lucas, F.I.C., in "Some Notes on Hashish," read before the Cairo Scientific Society ("Cairo Scientific Journal," No. 57, vol. V., June 1911), stated that practically all the hashish that finds its way into Egypt, and probably also that used in Turkey and other Mediterranean countries, is exported from Greece, where the hemp-plant is specially cultivated for the purpose. Although growing Indian hemp and its import are prohibited in Egypt, a very considerable quantity finds its way into the country. The seizures in 1909 amounted to 23,000 kilos., which was destroyed. Formerly it was sold and allowed to be exported, provided it was not sent to an Ottoman port, but it was

found that the hashish was only smuggled in again. Despite all efforts of authorities hashish can readily be obtained in every Egyptian town, the price only having risen from 30 to 40 francs per kilo, to between 60 and 100 francs in 1907. Smoking and eating are the usual methods of consuming hashish in Egypt; as regards the former custom, usually in the form of cigarettes. For eating, it is prepared in many ways. Mr. Lucas said his objective of finding a test for the detection of hashish was abandoned on Dr. Beam, of the Wellcome Research Laboratories, Khartoum, informing him of a test which he had discovered. This consists of evaporating to dryness a petroleum ether extract of the substance to be tested and saponifying the residue with alcoholic potash solution, when a marked characteristic and persistent purplish-violet colour is produced if an Indian hemp preparation is present.



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Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICUS LONDON."

Telephone No.: BANK 852 (two lines).

INFORMATION WANTED.

We would be obliged if any reader would inform us by post-card or telephone who are the makers or agents of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries:

- 35/34. "Stomalix."
- 33/64. "Soiloff": supply.
- 33/55. "Astral" face-cream.
- 33/57. "Camillo" tooth-brush.
- 31/32. Makers of bone spatulas.
- 31/60. "Vytol-lak," a nerve-food.
- 25/2 and 29/71. Hirsch's Trusses.
- 35/340. "Raffan's Catarrh Cure."
- 29/67. Plaster Omnicura (Braggi).
- 34/57. "Echappe" brand anilin oil.
- 30/73. Burnett's "Sit-Snug" belts.
- 28/48. "French Strand" tableau lights.
- 28/51. "Asthma-Phthisic" (price 4s. 6d.): makers.
- 37/10. Indian iris perfume made by Lille Frères, London and Grasse.
- 35/33. Durassi Frères et Laudrin, makers of cachet machines: address.
- 31/3. Stephens & Co., Ltd., ophthalmic opticians (successors to N. Lazarus): address.
- 31/35. "Liver Saline," with picture of saline-bottle, "Regd.," and letters "L. S." in each corner of label.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to the makers or sellers of the following articles. The information will be repeated to other inquirers who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- "Amater" feeding-bottle, 28/28
- Alypin, 34/71
- Amyl acetate, 31/100
- "Banana oil," 31/1
- Beauregarde et Cie.'s Preparations, 34/67
- Braby's sputum flask, 23/46
- Brodie's hair-dye, 31/601
- Brown's bronchial troches, 29/660
- Carbon tetrachloride, 30/71
- Castoroids, 33/55
- Celandine, 31/600
- Collapsible tube-filling machines, 32/40
- Copper sulphate, 28/19.
- Cuticura, 3/6
- Emulsion machine (special), 31/21
- Enesol, 30/74
- Freck tablet machine (South African inquiry), 31/500.
- Galathil, 34/10.
- Graves's tooth-powder (London agent), 35/23
- Hair's asthma-cure, 33/56
- Jackson's insect-powder bellows, 31/2
- McKesson's pills (London supply), 29/66
- Martin's apiol and steel pills, 35/230
- Microscopic slides, 29/25
- Naldire's dog-soap, 33/63
- "Orize" perfumes, 28/20
- Orthoform (new), 33/54
- Oxopharmakon, 31/41
- Paper towels, 32/34
- "Puritas" disinfectant, 26/50
- "Quick White" polish, 33/62
- "Radiol" liquid and leg-wash powder, 35/232
- "Rexall" remedies, 30/44
- Rosatogen, 28/1

OBSERVATIONS & REFLECTIONS.

By Xrayer II.

The "Natural Resentment"

of pharmacists against the Insurance Act will soon subside if thoughtful expositions such as that contributed by Mr. J. B. Francis to the Wrexham chemists become the order of the day. Mr. Francis has introduced a new idea in his suggestion that price-lists of 1912 will not be suitable for the year 1913, for the reason that the working of the Act will affect the cost of production of drugs and medical requirements. This may be so, but I hardly think that the alteration of costs will operate to anything like the extent Mr. Francis apparently expects. I agree that the chemist who gets the dispensing will also supply the accessories, but I cannot see how it is possible for the prices to be kept private; if loss and bankruptcy are only to be averted by privacy we are in a parlous way.

Insurance Dispensing

is destined to be a stumbling-block to the smooth working of the Act, particularly in those districts which are on the border line between town and country. While I do not wholly agree with "Medico-Pharmaceuticus," many of his remarks will command general assent. He makes the suggestion that prescriptions should be marked "Not to be repeated," but surely a much more effective procedure would be to regard the prescription as a voucher to be handed over to the Health Committee. This would necessitate the prescription being retained by the chemist, and patients would require to have a fresh scrip for every supply of medicine.

The Charges

by "Medico-Pharmaceuticus" against present-day pharmacists, as contrasted with those of his own pharmaceutical days, are no less than amazing. I do not know to what precise period he refers, but certainly there is less "treatment" by pharmacists now, in proportion to their numbers, than there was when I entered the trade fifty years since. From 1870 to 1880 I was in close business relations with dozens of chemists and druggists who virtually lived by prescribing, and with many more who laid themselves out for it as far as they could. I have heard a man of this class refuse even to look at a doctor's prescription; he was not there, he said, to finish other men's jobs. Probably there are some such "pharmacists" still, but they are a diminishing number. The very appearance of the shops indicates this; the famous (or infamous) Blue-book proves it. The point is, however, that while doctors continue to cherish such delusions about us, and to treat us accordingly, there can be no common action between us and them in any matter affecting the interests of either. I am convinced, too, that it is to the interest both of doctors and pharmacists that this Act should be loyally worked; but that is another question.

The Chloroform Discussion

furnishes an illustration of the manner in which history repeats itself. I recall reading in a journal many years ago a letter from Messrs. J. F. Macfarlan & Co., in which they challenged anyone to distinguish chloroform made from methylated spirit from that made from pure spirit. If my memory does not mislead me that challenge was never taken up, but, nevertheless, the chloroform controversy never quite died down, and some years ago its area was widened by the

introduction of chloroform made from acetone. I strongly support the view expressed by Messrs. Macfarlan & Co. in their letter last week that it would be a retrograde step to give official recognition to the sources of chloroform; it is unnecessary to go further than safeguard its *purity* by a rigid definition of its characters, these to be determined by carefully drawn tests.

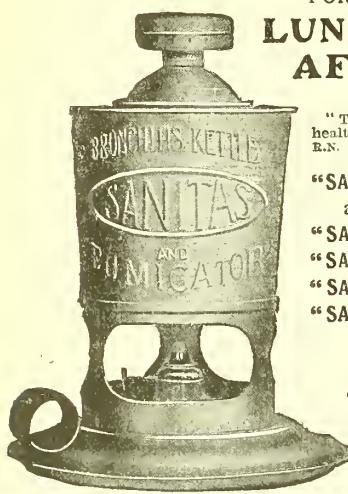
Black Antimony,

though we now know it in our shops as a popular veterinary medicine only, was retained in our Pharmacopœias until the middle of last century, under the name of Antimonii tersulphuretum. It was prescribed in doses of from 10 grains to 5ss., but was very uncertain in its action, "apt," says Alleyne, "to change with the humours it meets with in the stomach into a kind of Regulus, and prove violently emetic." Probably the uncertainty of its composition had much to answer for, although Nicholson tells us that the regulus itself, given in what were called perpetual pills because they could be recovered after operation and used again, was more or less violent in its action, according to the quantity of acid present in the stomach. The medical history of antimony may be read at large in Wootton. What we call black antimony is or should be the powdered calcined native grey sulphide, the original stibium or antimony of the ancients. The two names, by the way, are now thought to have come by different routes from the same source. There is certainly no truth in the old notion that the latter is due to the fact of Basil Valentine having inadvertently poisoned several monks with the drug, for it occurs four hundred years before his time, in the works of Constantinus Africanus of Salerno, the "cursed monk daun Constantin" of Chaucer's "Marchaundes Tale." It is not known who first extracted the regulus from the native antimony.

The Single Section

of the Oxford English Dictionary (Sen—Senatory), just published, contains few words of pharmaceutical import. "Seidlitz" is the subject of an interesting article. Its use in the term "seidlitz-powders" is quite arbitrary, for though the Specification of Savory's Patent, quoted under date 1815, states that his powders "possess all the properties of the medicinal spring in Germany," the spring really owes its virtue not to the salt present in the powders, but to magnesium sulphate. The artificial Seidlitz-water which preceded the powders in popular use was, says the Dictionary, of the same composition as the spring; the Paris formula, as given by Rennie, was 5xxss. of water acidulated with thrice its volume of carbonic-acid gas, 5ij. of magn. sulph., gr. xvij. of magn. hydrochlorat. The first quotation in the Dictionary for "Seidlitz" itself is in a reference to the German, dated 1784: "The Seydlitz, Seydschutz, or Epsom salts, are got by evaporation from the water of fountains in the places from whence they borrow their names." The name "Seignette" occurs in "Seignette salt" (Rochelle salt) as that of the inventor, under date 1753. "Seltzer" is a form of "Selters" (in which form it first occurs), a village in Hesse-Nassau, where the water was obtained. The earliest date for it in English is 1741. The first quotation for "seltzogene" is dated 1860; the earlier name of the apparatus was "gazogene" (1853). The words "selenite" and "selenites" are from the Greek *selene*, the moon, the stone originally so called having been supposed to wax and wane with the moon. "Selenium" has the same derivation for a different reason; Berzelius, the discoverer of the element, gave it this name because of its resemblance to tellurium (from *tellus*, the earth). The section contains a few interesting plant-names, such as self-heal, sempervivum, etc., but nothing is told us of them that is not common knowledge.

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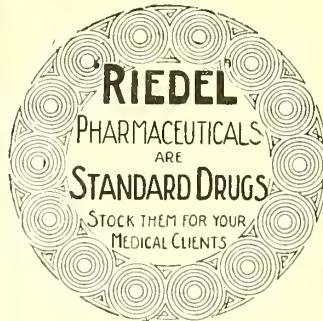
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| EPSOM SALTS, E.S.S. | 11/6 cwt. | PRECIP. CHALK | |
| Purified, Clean, and Dry | 12/6 .. | Finest Pure | |
| Ditto, Medium Crystals | | STARCH POWDER | |
| FLOWERS OF SUL- PHUR, Finest English | 13/6 cwt. | Finest Pure TOILET OATMEAL, SPECIAL | |
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LIQUORS

Editorial Articles.

The Finance Act, 1911.

THIS new statute has been published during the past week. We may recall the fact that it consists of six parts. The first, dealing with Customs and Excise matters, comprises twelve sections, two of which directly affect the drug-trade—namely, Section 2 which embodies alterations of the duty on cocoa or chocolate, ground, prepared, or in any way manufactured, the Customs duty of 2d. per lb. ceasing and being replaced by the duty charged on raw cocoa under Section 7 of the Finance Act, 1901. Cocoa-butter is correspondingly affected, and the drawback on exportation of cocoa, cocoa-butter, and cocoa husks and shells is made to figure *pari passu* with the import duties. Section 9 deals with the licences for sale of spirits for medical purposes, etc. The other parts of the Act deal with stamps (Part II.), Income Tax and Inhabited House Duty (Part III.), National Debt (Part IV.), Death Duties (Part V.), and Part VI. is a provision for enabling the Post Office to exercise certain powers in relation to stamps, postal orders, licences or forms usually sold at the Post Office, the Postmaster-General taking the place of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue in these matters, subject to Order in Council. Section 9 is, of course, the provision of greatest interest to the drug-trade, and although we gave

the text of it when the measure was before the House, we repeat it as it occurs in the Act :

(1) Any manufacturing or wholesale chemist and druggist who requires licence for the purposes only of selling rectified spirits of not less than forty-three degrees above proof, for medicinal purposes, to duly qualified medical practitioners or duly registered pharmaceutical chemists or chemists and druggists, or persons requiring the spirits for use for scientific purposes in any laboratory, and undertakes not to sell spirits otherwise than for those purposes and to those persons, may obtain a licence on payment of a reduced duty of ten pounds.

(2) The Commissioners of Customs and Excise may attach such conditions to any licence granted on payment of a reduced duty under this section as they think expedient for the protection of the revenue.

(3) If any person holding a licence granted on payment of a reduced duty under this section sells spirits in any manner contrary to his undertaking, or to the conditions attached to his licence, he shall be liable in respect of each offence to an Excise penalty of fifty pounds.

The original intention was that the new licence should be granted by the Excise authorities, but no special provision is made for this in the Act. On this point Mr. John C. Umney has had an interview with Sir Arthur J. Tedder, one of the Commissioners of the Board of Customs, with whom, as Chief Inspector of Excise, Mr. Umney had the preliminary negotiations in respect to this legislation, and Mr. Umney was informed by Sir Arthur that it is essential that a justice's certificate should be obtained at the Licensing Sessions before the Excise authorities can grant it. We cannot understand why, but such is the official decision. The Brewster Sessions are held in England and Wales next month, and it is necessary to proceed at once to take the steps prescribed in the case of applications for a retail licence (see *C. & D. Diary*, p. 454, under "Wines"). Mr. Umney has informed the members of the Drug Club about his interview, and this note will serve to warn others in England; while wholesalers in Ireland and Scotland should take the requisite steps when their local magistrates meet to grant licences. A number of questions have arisen in Mr. Umney's correspondence which are almost certain to recur with others who learn now of the matter. In the first place, it should be noted that the new licence is as distinct from the retail and wholesale spirit licences as night is from day; so that, whatever spirit licences any wholesalers may have, if they want the rectified spirit one they must make specific application for it. Some appear to think that their present justices' certificates will do, but that is not so. For the sale of intoxicating liquors in wholesale quantities (*i.e.* above two gallons) an excise licence is granted without a justices' certificate, except when the vendor holds a retailer's licence. When the effect of the Finance Act, 1910, on wholesale druggists who held both wholesale and retail spirit licences became known—*i.e.*, that they had to pay full retail spirit in order to sell rectified spirit in less quantities than 2 gals.—many of them who had to pay 50% for what they previously had at 3*l.* 10*s.* paid under protest, and expected, if they were not promised, a refund in the event of the special rectified spirit licence being enacted. It will be some time before this is settled one way or other, and licensees will need to exercise patience; but those who protested to the Revenue authorities in writing cannot do wrong in reminding the authorities of their protest, and courteously asking for a decision in the matter. Section 8 of the Act bears upon the new licence, but not on the old. It is :

In the case of licences for the sale of intoxicating liquor granted to a new beginner, the proportional part of the duty upon payment of which the licence may be granted shall be such sum as bears to the full amount of the duty the same proportion as the period for which the licence will be in force bears to a whole year.

The new licence will date annually from July 1. So that most wholesalers who get it will be new beginners; but the retail licence is a question of remission, and is in a different category. No doubt the whole subject will be discussed at next Tuesday's meeting of the London Chamber of Commerce, when Mr. Umney will give an account of his stewardship, which includes this matter—brought to a successful legislative issue.

Buchu.

THE market calculations as to the future course of buchu-leaves has been somewhat upset by the increased tax (now 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb.) on the collection of buchu on South African Crown lands, the official announcement in regard to which was published in full in this journal last week (index folio 30). Previous to the increase of the tax on collection the tendency of the London buchu-market was downwards, owing to the proximity of the new crop and the offers of same for shipment early in February. Buyers everywhere, especially in the United States, have held off in the natural hope of lower prices with the advent of a new season, but with this sudden and substantial increase in the prime cost to the native collectors, it is difficult to see how any material decline can take place, when the full extent of the tax is reflected on the future collections. Buchu has ruled at very high prices for the past two years, and it will be remembered that on one occasion in 1910 the London price touched 6*s.* per lb., owing to the great scarcity. Undoubtedly these high prices led collectors to gather as much buchu as possible, and this we understand led to the ruthless destruction of the leaves, and also of bush tea in the Cape Province, particularly on private property. It is perhaps astonishing that plants having such an economic value should be destroyed, and although farmers have been urged to do all in their power to protect these useful bushes, no concerted plan has been adopted. With the Crown lands, on which the greater part of the "round" leaves are collected, it is now otherwise, and we reported last year that certain areas were closed for a season, in order to afford the plants some opportunity of propagating themselves from seed. Looking back at the history of this tax, we find we reported in 1904 that the tax was 1*d.* per lb., and that the collecting period was restricted to the first three months of the year. Subsequently the tax was raised to 3*d.* per lb., and in January 1911 it was raised to 6*d.*, and now, from January 1912, it is 1*s.* 6*d.* On this occasion, however—and this is an important point—the season of collection has been restricted to two months only—from February 1 to March 3, inclusive. Undoubtedly the Union Government is making an effort to conserve the industry, and we understand that very stringent regulations have been issued as regards the methods of collection. From this side it looks as if the present season will again see an acute shortage in the official "round" leaves, but as "ovals" and "longs" are mostly collected on lands under private ownership, it is not anticipated that they will be affected by the action of the Government; moreover, they can be collected at practically any period. It need hardly be said that a third season of high prices will again reduce the consumption of the drug—the main outlet for which is in connection with American proprietary remedies. If, however, the Government should succeed in placing the industry on a surer foundation, it will be doing a genuine service to pharmacy. In view of the fact that importers hold a small stock of round leaves on the spot, for which in most

instances higher prices than those now ruling have been paid, it is not unlikely that the lately sagging tendency will be replaced by a firmer tone, when the increased tax is reflected on later shipments.

£1,237,562,434 of Trade.

THE Board of Trade Returns for December and for the year 1911 show that British oversea commerce has again established fresh records. Taking the imports and exports in the aggregate the figures rose to 1,237,562,434*l.*, which exceeds the year 1910 by 26,000,000*l.* True, prices advanced again in 1911, but not by so much as this increase in value, so that the volume as well as the value of our commerce was greater than in 1910, and therefore greater than in any previous year. Moreover, these extremely satisfactory results were achieved under great disadvantages, considering that business last summer was completely disorganised throughout the country by severe labour disturbances, Coronation holidays, and threatened international complications which tended to weaken confidence. The fluctuations of the increases and decreases of imports and exports during the year have in consequence been remarkable and very irregular, as will be seen by the following month by month record :

| 1911 | | | | | Imports | Exports (British) |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|----------------------|
| January | ... | ... | ... | ... | +6,800,000 | +2,900,000 |
| February | ... | ... | ... | ... | +4,900,000 | +3,900,000 |
| March | ... | ... | ... | ... | +400,000 | +6,500,000 |
| April | ... | ... | ... | ... | -7,700,000 | +400,000 |
| May | ... | ... | ... | ... | -1,300,000 | +4,000,000 |
| June | ... | ... | ... | ... | -3,500,000 | +1,300,000 |
| July | ... | ... | ... | ... | +1,700,000 | -3,800,000 |
| August | ... | ... | ... | ... | -1,400,000 | -2,600,000 |
| September | ... | ... | ... | ... | +2,100,000 | -100,000 |
| October | ... | ... | ... | ... | +2,800,000 | +5,800,000 |
| November | ... | ... | ... | ... | +1,300,000 | +4,100,000 |
| December | ... | ... | ... | ... | -4,100,000 | +1,100,000 |
| The year 1911 as compared with 1910... | | | | | +2,300,000 | +23,900,000 |

It will be seen that for the complete year imports rose by 2,300,000*l.*, the total being 680,559,175*l.*, and the exports of British goods rose by 23,900,000*l.* to 454,282,460*l.*; on the other hand, re-exports of imported goods declined by 1,040,426*l.* to 102,720,799*l.* Taking the principal groups as scheduled, we have the following figures :

| 1911 | | Imports | Exports | Re-exports |
|--------------------------|-----|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Food, drink, and tobacco | ... | £264,534,176 | £29,031,728 | £14,311,075 |
| Raw materials | ... | 248,162,717 | 53,729,567 | 59,905,898 |
| Manufactured goods | ... | 165,578,789 | 362,387,504 | 28,358,676 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | 2,483,493 | 9,133,661 | 145,150 |
| | | 680,559,175 | 454,282,460 | 102,720,799 |

The feature of trading in the last month of the year was a significant decline of 4,107,447*l.* in imports, which were valued at 65,002,014*l.*, this following a decline of 3,300,000*l.* in November imports. Exports last month were better by 1,147,769*l.* at 38,571,879*l.*, this including 83,048*l.* more for chemicals. The principal features of the year's trading include 6,652,588*l.* more for food, drink, and tobacco, most of this being attributable to dear sugar, which cost 2,246,000*l.* more, although the quantity imported was only

slightly higher; on the other hand, the value of grain and flour imports declined by 1,535,528*l.*, but we received over a million cwt. more. Raw materials were also 13,012,911*l.* less; but here again cotton was much cheaper, the imports being 2,300,000 cents more and the values 556,594*l.* less. There was also a big drop in the value of rubber, the values declining by 7.7 millions sterling, but the imports were 29,000 cwt. more at 906,077 cwt. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums were 2,493,451*l.* less, there being an all-round decline in the quantity of oil-seeds, soya beans being chiefly affected; tallow and stearin also fell off by practically 260,000 cwt. In manufactured articles the fluctuations were not very significant, importers in the iron and steel trades showing the greatest activity. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours increased by 152,147*l.*, the following being the figures for the past three years :

| 1909 | 1910 | 1911 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| £10,596,593 | £11,259,685 | £11,411,832 |

No special feature marked our imports of chemicals last year, the increase applying in small degree to the bulk of the scheduled items. Painters' colours and pigments were bought more largely, and there was also an increase of 106,965 oz. in quinine, imports of which amounted to 3,291,960 oz., valued at 98,056*l.*, equivalent to 7.15*d.* per oz. (practically 7*1/2**d.*). The outstanding feature of the exports in 1910 is the increase of 23,897,688*l.*, of which 19,518,307*l.* was in manufactured goods alone, but the significance of this is not fully realised unless we recall that in its turn 1910 shows an increase of 46 millions over 1909. In the last two years that is British exports of manufactured goods have increased by 65,600,000*l.* Last year chemicals and the like participated to the extent of 1,524,998*l.* more, as compared with 1910, the following being the figures for the past three years :

| 1909 | 1910 | 1911 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| £16,783,019 | £18,568,136 | £20,093,134 |

We give the record month by month of imports, exports, and re-exports of chemicals in the following table :

| 1911 | Imports | British exports | Re-exports |
|-----------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| January | £877,001 | £1,610,158 | £116,131 |
| February | 863,590 | 1,712,794 | 91,939 |
| March | 1,012,466 | 1,978,281 | 121,753 |
| April | 950,154 | 1,859,452 | 102,128 |
| May | 1,035,739 | 1,742,567 | 152,738 |
| June | 935,410 | 1,586,796 | 105,352 |
| July | 918,226 | 1,263,749 | 114,300 |
| August | 938,295 | 1,501,233 | 102,797 |
| September | 880,928 | 1,602,161 | 134,263 |
| October | 940,106 | 1,873,528 | 167,622 |
| November | 1,026,440 | 1,678,384 | 110,352 |
| December | 1,035,477 | 1,684,031 | 107,449 |
| | 11,411,832 | 20,093,134 | 1,426,824 |

It will be seen that the twenty-million sterling mark has now been reached in the chemical and drug exports, and the figures as compared with the corresponding months of 1910 show a steady increase. Of this 20 millions we roughly apportion the amounts as follows: Coal products, not dyes, 1,882,700*l.*; chemical manures, 5,496,000*l.*; painters' colours, 2,829,500*l.*; soda compounds, 1,864,300*l.*; bleach-powder, 194,700*l.*; copper sulphate, 1,509,000*l.*; miscellaneous chemicals, 2,964,000*l.*; and drugs and medicines 2,013,251*l.* The latter figures are 137,818*l.* better than in 1910 and 295,165*l.* more than two years ago. The British quinine exports were 1,841,527 oz. against 1,360,782 oz., and were valued at 75,080*l.*, or 9.78*d.* per oz. In addition

there were exported 210,605 oz. of foreign-made quinine, valued at 5,722*l.*, or 6*2d.* per oz., which seems an instance of under-valuation. There was an enormous expansion in copper-sulphate exports, which rose from 42,706 tons to 79,851 tons; but with very few exceptions increased trading in the bulk of items has shown the healthy condition of the chemical-trade throughout, in spite of many drawbacks. In some quarters it is felt that the high-water mark of trade has now been reached, and that the boom cannot last much longer, but it is impossible to express confidently an opinion on this point.

Pharmaceutical Reciprocity.

"Impossible conditions" is the term which an ex-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland applies to the conditions for pharmaceutical reciprocity suggested by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Nevertheless, the by-laws were passed by the members of the latter Society on Wednesday. Incidentally the by-laws have the effect of imposing a compulsory curriculum on Minor candidates. Will the Privy Council sanction them? The answer is extremely doubtful, as the Colonial and War Offices will have something to say.

Assistants: Male and Female.

A statement having been published by several newspapers to the effect that drug-stores underpay their assistants, Sir Jesse Boot replies that this is not true as regards his companies. Out of 700 qualified men employed by them, he states that returns for income-tax are made in respect to over 500—that is, they have over 160*l.* a year. The original statement was made by Mr. Bedding, who is forming an Assistants' "Union," and threatens a strike of assistants. We note that Mr. Bedding objects to women being employed as cheap assistants in drug-stores and pharmacies. A little more thought on his part should show him that this is necessary and reasonable. It is not economical to use qualified men at high salaries to put up or sell goods which women can do as well, and in many cases better.

A Question of Reprinting.

Before any matter published in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is reprinted by others than ourselves for circulation, as an advertisement or otherwise, it is customary to apply to us for the necessary sanction. In this connection the following letter has been sent to a number of chemists in Surrey :

January 9, 1912.

DEAR SIR,—We sent you last Saturday, together with other material, a reprint from THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of September 23. We reprinted this extract without asking the permission of this esteemed periodical. This was an act of thoughtlessness on our part, which we very much regret, and we hope that you will accept our assurance that it was done without the knowledge of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

We are, yours, etc.,

UNITED DRUG COMPANY, LTD.

Mr. Lewis S. Wandell, managing director of the company, has explained to us the circumstances of the omission to apply to us before the article referred to was printed, and he has stopped the circulation of the reprint.

The Jury System.

It is stated officially that the Departmental Committee which is considering, under the chairmanship of Lord Mersey, the question of the summoning of juries and the hardships entailed under the existing practices have decided to include coroners' juries within the scope of their investigation. Evidence will be taken for this purpose from coroners' officers, and perhaps even from coroners themselves, in regard to the practice prevailing at the present time. It may not be generally known that some coroners

insist that pharmaceutical chemists, although exempt in England and Wales from jury service by the Juries Act, 1862, must serve on coroners' juries when called upon. The departmental inquiry gives the Pharmaceutical Society an opportunity of having this point definitely settled, and perhaps getting some official record made of the desirability of exempting all pharmacists from jury service.

An Old Remedy Revived.

The traditional use of comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*) as an application for sores caused Dr. C. J. Macalister, of Liverpool, to reinvestigate this ancient remedy, with the result in the "British Medical Journal" it is put forward as a new cell-proliferant. An infusion of the powdered root was employed as a dressing for a rodent ulcer which had for two years resisted treatment, with the result that in a week the surface cleaned and a distinct growth of epithelium could be seen taking place from some of the marginal points. A chemical examination of comfrey by Dr. Titherley and Mr. Coppin, of the Chemical Department of the Liverpool University, disclosed the fact that the root is rich in allantoin, and clinical observations continued with allantoin showed that to this substance is due the healing properties of the drug. Comfrey-root contains 0.8 per cent. of allantoin, which is prepared artificially by the alkaline oxidation of uric acid in the cold. The solution is made of a strength of 0.3 to 0.4 per cent., and besides its use as an application for ulcers has been found advantageous in gastric ulcer, given internally, and as an application for pruritus ani. Dr. Bramwell, another Liverpool doctor, has also used comfrey-root and allantoin with excellent results, which should lead to the resuscitation of this old remedy.

Sale of Liquid Ammonia.

On Thursday, February 1, the new regulation comes into force which requires that liquid ammonia containing more than 5 per cent. by weight of free ammonia shall be retailed only on the conditions mentioned on p. 436 of *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*, including the name and address of the seller on the label. People who are unfamiliar with the sale of poisons and poisonous substances are apparently preparing for this, as we are receiving numerous daily inquiries from manufacturers and packers as to, e.g., what address should be on the label when retailers have more than one place of business. For example, would the head-office address suffice? The reply is in the negative, the practice under the 1868 Act also applying to the 1908 one, and there are numerous convictions for sales of poison without the address of the shop at which it was actually sold being on the label (see paragraph on "Address" in our *Diary*, p. 437). Another interesting question has arisen in regard to proprietary household ammonia supplied to retailers in packets. Should the name and address of the retailer in such cases be put upon the bottle or on the outer wrapper? The manufacturers of Scrubb's ammonia have had several interviews with the Privy Council officers in regard to this question, and have also taken counsel's opinion on the subject, with the result that they are advising retailers and others that a name and address label of the retailer placed on the wrapper will meet the regulations. This is in accordance with the established practice of the retail drug-trade followed when proprietary medicines containing scheduled poisons are retailed; and until this practice is held by the Courts to be wrong, it will be safe to follow. It should, however, be noted that retailers who put up liquid ammonia and retail it themselves must put their name and address on

the bottle, just as they have to put the words "Liquid Ammonia, Poisonous. Not to be taken." This is a legal requirement to which there has never been, as far as we are aware, any exemption in practice.

Chemists' Scales.

The current number of the "Monthly Review" (the official organ of the Incorporated Society of Inspectors of Weights and Measures) contains an amusing symposium of solutions supplied by some sixteen inspectors to the following problem :

I. is an inspector, C. is a chemist, S. is a scalemaker. C. has for use for trade in his shop a French balance (capacity 4 lb.) which is within the limits of error as tabulated in Table XV. (Regulations, p. 40). I. makes an inspection at C.'s shop, and calls his attention to the regulation dealing with special trades, and leaves a notice instructing C. to obtain a weighing instrument which will satisfy the requirements of the regulation dealing with special trades (Regulation 12, pars. 1 (h), 2, and 4).

C. calls in S., who informs him that it is impossible to make this balance more sensitive; he, however, points out that the inspector's stamp has not been obliterated, consequently C. takes no notice of I.'s instructions.

I. pays a second visit to C.'s shop, and finding his notice, notwithstanding the time mentioned has expired, has been ignored, again tests the French balance and obliterates the stamp thereon.

C. then takes the instrument to another S. who submits it to I., and it is again stamped.

I. pays a third visit to C.'s shop, again tests the French balance, and again obliterates the stamp.

C. takes the instrument back to S., and it is again stamped only to be rejected by I. on his fourth visit; and so *ad infinitum*.

(a) What information can I. lay against C. or S.? If not, why not?

(b) What would you do under the circumstances? I., C. and S. appear to consider their respective ideas correct and each intends to see this through to the end.

(c) Is I.'s mode of procedure a correct one?

There was much diversity of opinion among those who attempted to solve this knotty problem. But the best opinion seems to be that neither the chemist nor the scalemaker can be prosecuted, as it is lawful for anyone to use a correct scale which has been duly stamped; that each of the parties to the transaction is acting quite legally, and therefore the farcical condition described may go on indefinitely until common-sense induces one of the parties to change his tactics; and that the best hope for a solution is to be found in the probability that the chemists will soon get tired of paying scalemakers' and inspectors' fees. The moral for chemists is really the fact emphasised in the *C. & D. Diary*, 1912, p. 451 :

"In practice it is usually found that scales with the pans above the beam cannot ordinarily, except with difficulty, be maintained in a sufficiently sensitive and accurate condition to satisfy the tests applied by inspectors."

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

ALDERMAN J. PHILLIPS, Ph.C., Wigan, was again elected Chairman of the Ribble Joint Committee on January 8.

MR. R. T. PATIS (Parke, Davis & Co.) is, with his family, leaving for Australia for health reasons. For years past Mr. Patis has been associated with the public life of Ilford.

MR. ERNEST H. BRITTAINE, Fairchild scholar of 1907, who has been with Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., at Dartford, has joined the staff of Messrs. Prichard & Constance (Wholesale), Ltd., as factory manager.

MR. T. SWALES, druggists' sundriesman, Butt's Court, Leeds, has been appointed on the Executive Committee of the Leeds Commercial Travellers' Association, which is celebrating its silver anniversary this year.

MR. GEORGE NAYLOR, Ph.C., F.C.S., formerly of Blackpool, has joined the staff of Messrs. Scott & Bowne, Ltd., Stonecutter Street, London, E.C. Mr. Naylor has for sometime been specialising in advertising and publicity methods.

MR. CHARLES BROOKS, 4 Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C., Mr. Thomas W. Theakston, Ph.C., of Messrs. Prichard & Constance, Ltd., 64 Haymarket, London, S.W., and Mr. Gow Gregor, of Klynos Inc., sailed by the *Olympic* on Wednesday for New York.

COUNCILLOR C. E. FOX, J.P., Ph.C., has been elected Treasurer of the recently formed Masonic Lodge of Metropolitan Mayors and ex-Mayors. Mr. Fox at the last meeting of the Borough Council was presented with an engrossed and framed address in recognition of his four years' service as Mayor.

MR. J. T. APPLETON, Walkley Pharmacy, Sheffield, has been appointed Treasurer of the Sheffield Chemists' Trading Association, and Mr. C. H. Hewitt, Division Street, Sheffield, has been appointed Secretary in succession to Mr. Percy Carr. The latter fact should be noted in the *C. & D. Diary*, p. 207.

MR. JOHN GARDENER, a well-known representative for Messrs. Howards & Sons, Ltd., chemical-manufacturers, Stratford, London, E., has just retired after fifty-four years' service with this house. During forty-five years of this period Mr. Gardener has called upon town houses and provincial firms, especially those in Ireland. It is interesting to note that his father was also in the employment of Messrs. Howards & Sons, having entered their service in 1823 when Mr. Luke Howard, F.R.S., founder of the business, was still the head of the firm. Mr. Gardener, sen., remained with the firm for sixty-one years. Thus father and son have given 115 years of service to the firm.

Practical Notes and Formulae.

Perfumers' Spirit.

MR. H. C. BRADFORD ("Merck's Report") recommends the following formula for the spirit used by perfumers, either as a diluent or for pomade-washing. It is stated to be "the product of the brain and skill of one of America's foremost teachers in this line" :

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Purified animal charcoal | 2 oz. |
| Spirit of nitrous ether | 30 minims |
| Nutmeg oil | 30 minims |
| Coumarin | 20 grains |
| Vanillin | 10 grains |
| Benzoin tincture (simple) | 1 oz. |
| Alcohol | 128 oz. |

Macerate the charcoal in the alcohol for at least one week, shaking frequently. Then filter bright, using talcum, if necessary, and dissolve the other ingredients in the filtrate.

Thymol Tooth-powder.

THE following from the "Bulletin of Pharmacy" is contributed by a British pharmacist, and it is stated to be the outcome of much thought and experiment :

| | | |
|------------------------|-----|--------|
| Thymol | 72 | grains |
| Menthol | 24 | grains |
| Peppermint oil | 160 | minims |
| Rose oil | 24 | minims |
| Rose-geranium oil | 144 | minims |
| Lemon oil, terpeneless | 40 | minims |
| Wintergreen oil | 80 | minims |
| Saccharin, soluble | 48 | grains |
| Powdered Castile soap | 4 | oz. |
| Powdered borax | 4 | oz. |
| Tooth-powder basis | 8 | oz. |
| Precipitated chalk | 2½ | lb. |

The thymol and menthol are dissolved in the oils and mixed with a little of the powder before adding to the bulk. The "tooth-powder basis" is stated to be a variety of kieselguhr. The powder is put up in tins containing 1 oz. and 2 oz., retailing at 6d. and 10½d. The sale was pushed by the distribution of free samples and by advertising in the local papers. Its antiseptic properties should be especially emphasised.

Modern Methods.

Some ideas gathered in a conversation with Mr. Charles T. Maw and his Firm's Home Department Manager.

RECENT and coming events in British pharmacy have, in the one case, paved the way for changes in the business, and, in the other, foreshadow possibilities of further changes that none but the unthinking pharmacist ignores. When the National Insurance Bill was introduced, and the terms of the Medical Benefit clause were seen to be detrimental to the interests of pharmacists, Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons issued a circular to their customers (*C. & D.*, 1911, I. 912) calling attention to the provisions and urging the importance of immediate action of pharmacists to bring their views before the House of Commons as speedily as possible. Linking this incident with "Maw's Page" which has recently become a con-



MR. C. T. MAW.



MR. A. F. PORTER.

tinuous feature in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, an opportunity was provided for an interview with Mr. Charles T. Maw, senior partner of the firm, in regard to the future of the pharmacists' business in this country. Our representative found Mr. Maw to be not in the slightest pessimistic, and that his House has been preparing for eventualities, and is ready to help the trade in regard to the supply of medical and surgical appliances under the Act as well as in respect to the retail sale of those profitable extras which form a large part of the pharmacist's income. Some time ago the firm appointed Mr. Albert F. Porter as Manager of the Home Department of their business. Mr. Porter has been with them twenty-one years, and has an intimate knowledge of all departments of the sundries side, while for ten years past he has been specially engaged in attending to the multitude of inquiries and suggestions which come to the House. One of the latest products of Mr.

Porter's department is the new illustrated price-list, which combines the old catalogue of illustrations and the quarterly price-list. More than a year's labour has been involved in its production, and the result is a handsome book of nearly 800 pages, bound in flexible covers of grey cloth with Rembrandt brown lettering. It has as a frontispiece a portrait of George Maw, the founder of the business, and is provided with a thumbnail index to the nine sections, which are: Druggists' sundries section, 530 pages;

ambulance, 10 pages; dental, 13 pages; invalid furniture, 11 pages; surgical appliances, 29 pages; optical, 39 pages; miscellaneous, 47 pages; shop-fittings, 29 pages; and patents, 36 pages. It is a carefully compiled and easily

referable book, which will take a place beside the British Pharmacopœia as an epitome of the non-chemical and non-galenical goods required from chemists. Many of the druggists' sundries are, however, preparations of a pharmaceutical nature. It should be of great service for medical and surgical supplies under the National Insurance Act. The prices are kept up to date by periodical circulation of gummed sheets of alterations, tearable into the separate items, of which the following is an example:

B3822/G Batiste, Maw's, waterproof cambric

per yd. 36 in. 1/10; 45 in. 2/4

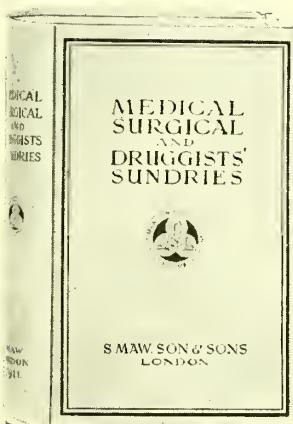
B3823/G Batiste, Maw's, waterproof cambric, No. 2 quality, 36 in. per yd. 1/6

B3824/G Billroth's Waterproof Cambric, super quality, 33 in. 1/3

At the side of these items the pages of the list to which they refer are given. Fifteen tons of the list have recently been issued. Mr. Porter was present with Mr. Maw in the interview referred to, and he pointed out that his firm are constantly helping their customers in carrying out ideas and schemes to make the goods sell. We inspected a varied selection of showcards which they supply—well designed, pithily worded, clearly illustrated, and nicely printed, all of them. The one given here lends itself to reproduction, but there are many better; it measures 14 in. by 8 in., and is printed in black, green and pink. Each card is enclosed in an envelope. The series covers every department of the business—brushes, combs, toilet articles and trusses are other examples. They are designed to educate the public to buy the goods when they see them, which is the best way of increasing the chemists' returns. The firm also help chemists to arrange window-displays. Mr. Porter mentioned a recent case where he arranged a display of hair-brushes for a suburban chemist. It was bold in quantity and quality, the prices ranging up to 15s. a brush. The display was kept up for a month, and in that time the chemist sold as many hair-brushes as he had previously done in a year, while he discovered, what he did not know before, that 7s. 6d. is not the maximum price that people in his neighbourhood are willing to give for a hair-brush. In tooth-brushes also the House have ideas for display which have multiplied many chemists' returns from this department. The main idea is that a chemist should select an individual pattern to make a leading line, stocking others as well, and showing all: in nine cases out of ten his own pattern is chosen on recommendation, and becomes to the chemist a thing of repute. The firm supply special cases for the display. In these and many other directions we have examples of Maw's Merchandising Service, which improves retail business, and the interview proved that helping and leading in business are important factors in the firm's relations with their customers. They have recently purchased a tooth and nail brush factory; they now have their own optical workshops in their Charles Street factory, and in other directions the trade may expect developments. These will be revealed from time to time in *Maw's Page* in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*—that clever and original piece of advertising which is attracting so much attention.



A SHOWCARD (reduced).



THE NEW LIST (reduced).

HAVE YOU filled in your *C. & D. Diary* postcards? Do it now and post to us, so that you may not lose the opportunity of a share in the ten guineas we are giving.

WINTER SESSION.

Association Presidents.

THIS week's President is a "Square" man, Mr. Abraham Walter Greaves, President of the Chesterfield and District Pharmacists' Association, who, after apprenticeship with his father, the late Mr. Abraham Greaves, Ph.C., 35 Market Place, Chesterfield, came to the Square School in the 1871-2 session, and passed the Minor examination in February 1872. In due course his father took him into partnership, and the business was carried on as Greaves & Son. It is a typical provincial high-class pharmaceutical business, established in 1836. The founder of the business died in 1898, and in 1900 Mr. A. W. Greaves took his son, Mr. Sydney Chater Greaves, into partnership, he having passed the Minor examination in January of that year. The firm make most of their tinctures, syrups, and the like, prepare a series of their own proprietaries, they have steam mills for the manufacture of paints, varnishes, and cattle condiments, and have an important business with collieries, quarries, and ironworks in the district. At one time elecampane, chamomile, and valerian were extensively grown in Derbyshire, and Messrs. A. Greaves & Son acted as distributors, but this branch of the trade has dwindled away, and valerian alone remains. They inform us that the supply of it diminishes every year, which we consider a pity, because there is always a good demand for English valerian, not by pharmacists in this country, but by the United States, where higher prices are obtained for it. In the training of apprentices Messrs. A. Greaves & Son have such a reputation that many pharmacists have gone through their hands, indeed five of the twenty members of the Chesterfield Association have served with Mr. A. W. Greaves.



MR. A. W. GREAVES.

Brief Records.

Chesterfield Pharmacists' Association.—A meeting was held on January 9 at the Hotel Portland, Mr. A. W. Greaves (President) in the chair. A vote of sympathy with the widow and family of the late Mr. Thomas Furness was carried in silence, and as a mark of respect it was decided to abandon the dinner which was to have been held this month.

Great Yarmouth Pharmaceutical Association.—A meeting was held at 150 King Street on January 4. The President (Mr. T. J. Woodcock) was in the chair, and there were also present Messrs. T. B. Male, J. S. Shearman, C. E. Williams, Harvey Palmer, W. G. Poll, H. E. Goddard, and A. E. Richmond. The business concerned local matters.

Ipswich Chemists' Association.—A meeting was held on January 4 at the Great White Horse Hotel, the President (Mr. S. R. Anness) in the chair. The following members decided to continue the weekly half-holiday on Wednesday, closing at 1 P.M., instead of 2 P.M. as formerly, on and after January 17: Messrs. Clifton, Chard, Edwards, Jaekson, E. Matcham, A. Matcham, Miller, Smalley, Symonds, Wiggin, and Stones.

Dewsbury Pharmacists' Association.—A meeting took place on January 8, but owing to the inclement state of the weather the attendance was but meagre. Mr. A. B. Barker (President) occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. R. Broadhead (Batley), J. Day, G. Butterfield, and G. N. Gutteridge (Dewsbury), together with the Secretary, Mr. Reginald J. H. Day (Dewsbury). It was arranged to hold the annual dinner on February 8, the details being left in the hands of Messrs. J. Day and G. N. Gutteridge and the Secretary.

Nottingham Pharmaceutical Association.—A meeting was held at the Victoria Station Hotel on January 10. Mr. F. Ross Sergeant presided over a large attendance, among those present being Messrs. A. Middleton, H. Middleton, A. Eberlin, W. S. Adamson, W. Gill, T. J. Williamson, J. Whitechurch, H. A. Dickenson, E. E. Dickenson, C. F. Carr, G. F. Godson, D. Ellis, C. E. Reynolds, A. A. Ringer, W. Meakin, J. O. Teale, W. Clay, T. Wilson, H. C. Price,

A. E. Beilby, — Kent, J. Smith, G. J. R. Parkes, — Dales, — Morris, and the Secretaries (T. Freeman and E. E. H. Turton). Mr. E. A. Broadburn was elected a member, and the Chairman welcomed Mr. Meakin after his recent severe illness. Mr. A. Middleton opened a discussion on *The National Insurance Act*, and reprints of Section 15 supplied by the C. & D. were handed round. Messrs. Sergeant, Eberlin, Gill, Adamson, Beilby, Meakin, and Whitchurch took part in the discussion. It was decided to form a Committee to deal with the matter.

Cambridge Junior Pharmaceutical Association.

The first general meeting was held on January 3 at Rigg's University Rooms, and those present included the following: Messrs. A. H. Course (Chairman), Atkins, Hammond, Knowles, Laxton, Hill, Peake, Speakman, Titterington, Tyler, Rutherford, and Williams (Hon. Secretary). The Chairman said an evening with the microscope would be given by Mr. Percy Pain on January 24. Mr. Williams then opened a discussion on bacteriology with reference to the Minor examination. He suggested that botany as a subject should be eliminated from the Minor and bacteriology substituted; chemistry should be augmented, and the present Major standard for chemistry should be the standard for the Qualifying examination. By this means the chemist would be in a position to rank as more of a professional man than at present. The discussion which followed ended up in a vote, three being in favour of the views expressed by Mr. Williams and eight against.

British Pharmaceutical Conference.—The Hon. Secretaries draw attention to the fact that a special effort is being made at the present time to increase the membership. The President of the Conference (Sir Edward Evans) has circularised a large number of registered pharmacists throughout the country, inviting them to join. The Local Committee at Edinburgh are sparing no pains to make the local arrangements as complete and attractive as possible. It is hoped again to obtain the special reduction on railway fares granted last year by the railway companies to members travelling to the annual meeting. Many pharmacists may not be in a position to attend the meetings or to contribute to its scientific work, but the Secretaries urge that they should support it on the grounds that the Conference is doing good work for pharmacy, and that the "Year Book of Pharmacy," which is sent free to all members, is well worth the annual subscription in itself. The Secretaries offer to forward a specimen copy of the 1911 volume—as far as the surplus copies will allow—to any pharmacist forwarding 4d. for postage.

Bradford Chemists' Association.—Mr. M. Firth presided at a meeting held on Tuesday evening, January 9, when the principal topic was the *Shops Act*. A general desire for the closing of the shops on a half-day per week was evinced, the opinion of the members being in accord with that expressed by the President that, as the chemists must release their assistants for half a day per week, it would be convenient to close the shops also, subject to the limitations permitted as to the sale of medicines and appliances. A resolution was passed declaring that Wednesday appeared to be the most suitable day for the purposes of the half-holiday, but it was understood that this was not a binding resolution, but merely an expression of opinion. It was decided to receive at the next meeting a deputation from the local Chamber of Trade to deal with the subject of the suggested conversion of the Association into a section of that Chamber. An Emergency Committee was formed for general purposes as recommended by Mr. Woolcock, and it was observed that that committee might probably be expected to have a good deal of work in connection with the National Insurance Act when it comes into operation.

Blackpool and Fylde Pharmacists' Association.—A meeting was held on January 8 at the Palatine Hotel, Blackpool. The President (Mr. Withers) occupied the chair, and was supported by Messrs. Boothroyd, Sankey, Huddart, Laurie, Watson, Blackhurst, and Bailey. The Secretary (Mr. Bailey) reported on the proceedings of the committee in regard to the arrangements for the annual dinner. These were approved. Mr. J. Laurie was recommended as a Vice-President of the Blackpool Tradesmen's Association. The President reported that the committee had had brought to their notice the fact that the application of a seedsman for a poison-licence which was recently refused had been renewed. After discussion it was decided to write to the Town Clerk asking the Watch Committee to receive a deputation from the Association. The following were appointed as the deputation: Messrs. Withers, Laurie, Sankey, Boothroyd, Turver, and Bailey. Mr. Laurie then gave notice that at the next meeting he should propose an alteration to Rule 3, and in consequence of this it was thought desirable that the whole of the rules should be revised. Messrs. Laurie, Boothroyd, and Bailey were appointed to draft a revised

set of rules and submit them to the next meeting. The annual meeting was fixed for February 9.

P.A.T.A. and C.D.A.—The annual meeting of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association was held in London on Thursday, January 4, Mr. John C. Umney in the chair. The first business was the election of a President in succession to Mr. Umney, and he proposed Mr. Benjamin Hirst, Governing director of Messrs. Hirst, Brooke & Hirst, Ltd., Leeds. This motion was unanimously agreed to, and Mr. Hirst, having taken the chair, thanked his colleagues for the honour conferred upon him. As Vice-Presidents of the Association Mr. Sigismund Kutnow, Mr. J. McCaig, and Mr. J. G. Atkinson, Ph.C., were re-elected, while Mr. G. R. Barclay was re-elected Hon. Treasurer. The new President is one of the founders of the P.A.T.A., and has been a member of the Council since the beginning. He has never missed a meeting. Mr. Hirst's connection with the drug-trade is coincident with the Pharmacy Act, 1868, when he entered the business founded by his father in 1843. This ultimately became the firm of Hirst, Brooke & Hirst, and it was registered as a company in 1893.—At the meeting of the directors of the Chemists' Defence Association, Ltd., subsequent to the above meeting, Mr. R. Feaver Clarke, Ph.C., was appointed Chairman in succession to Mr. J. W. Sutherland, and Mr. Henry Grimsby was appointed Vice-Chairman.



MR. B. HIRST.

Festivities.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.—The second half of the session was inaugurated by a musical and social evening held at 73 Newman Street, W., on January 4. In addition to the President (Mr. F. Naylor), there were present Messrs. W. P. Styles and P. B. Phillips (Secretaries), G. E. Williams, T. L. Beverley, E. M. Haslam, A. Haigh, W. Roberts, E. H. Brittain, A. Barbour, and several others. The evening was devoted to cards and interspersed with vocal and instrumental music, while a small section of the company found entertainment in the magazines and light literature which are now provided by the Association.

A Dublin Dance.—The staff of Messrs. Hayes, Conyngham & Robinson, Ltd., held their annual dance in the Aberdeen Hall, Gresham Hotel, Dublin, on January 5. About a hundred employés and their friends to the number of one hundred and fifty commenced dancing at 9 p.m., and continued until 3.30 a.m., a most enjoyable evening being spent. Among those present were Sir Thomas and Lady Robinson, Messrs. W. H. Hemming (P. D. & Co.), H. F. Campbell, Gilbert H. Davies, Samuel Goldhill, W. U. Smith, Ph.C., S. C. Brown, Ph.C., G. G. Williamson, Ph.C., R. S. Conyngham, Ph.C., J. Hogan, Ph.C., P. J. Burns, Ph.C., A. Kincaid, Ph.C., and R. Bates, Ph.C. The music was provided by Mr. Clarke Barry's band. The M.C.s were Mr. R. Taylor, Mr. W. P. B. Wilson, and Miss M. T. Nugent.

A. B. W. & Co. New Year's Party.—The members of the City staff of Burroughs Wellcome & Co. and their friends, what had best be described as a big family party, assembled at St. Sepulchre's Schools, Holborn, on Friday evening, January 5. The cares of business having been completely thrown aside, grave seniors and happy juniors danced and sang, pulled crackers, and played games to their hearts' content. An excellent concert programme had been arranged, and drew a good audience to one of the rooms, where Mr. J. Collett Smith presided, while simultaneously dancing and games were proceeding in another, Mr. W. H. Parker being superintendent of the whist-drive and Mr. E. Linstead was M.C. of the dance. Between these attractions was a room devoted to the buffet. This arrangement was very popular and enabled the guests to pass from one form of entertainment to another, pausing when they so desired on the way. The first social evening of the New Year was voted a great success by all present.

Scarborough Association of Pharmacists.—The annual dinner was held on January 4, the following members and friends being present: The President (Mr. Edgar M. Chapman), Messrs. Geo. Whitfield, T. W. Longdin, J. W. Chapman, E. Parker, R. M. Hill, H. C. Drake, W. H. Newton, W. R. Eyre, H. E. Hunt, G. H. Meadowley, F. W. Wilson (Bleasdale, Ltd.), Alfred Jones, J. W. Sutton, H. Anderson, L. Rose, G. Smith, M. Anderson, S. Crook, T. G. Taylor, R. J. Simms, and W. Arthur Senior (Hon. Secretary). The toasts were numerous, and most of the speakers referred to the National Insurance Act. Mr. Senior proposed the

toast of "The President," and in his reply Mr. Chapman touched upon the events of the past year and outlined a progressive policy for the coming year. The toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain" was proposed by Mr. E. M. Cross, and the Divisional Secretary (Mr. Geo. Whitfield) responded. "The Local Association" was proposed by Mr. Alfred Jones, the response being by Mr. Eyre. "The Secretary and Officers," proposed by Mr. Edward Parker, and "The Visitors," by Mr. Hill, were respectively responded to by the Hon. Secretary and Mr. F. W. Wilson. There was a good programme of music and recitations, and Mr. J. W. Chapman acted as pianist.

The "Western" Cinderella.—The "York" Room at the Restaurant Frascati was well filled on Wednesday evening, January 10, with a happy and harmonious gathering of about one hundred members and friends of the Western Chemists' Association of London. The music was good and the dancers appeared to enjoy themselves thoroughly. A pleasing innovation was the introduction of a set supper in the choice Frascati style, and happy parties clustered in tables round the balcony of the restaurant during the interval. The Council acted as stewards, and special mention should be made of the untiring efforts of Mr. R. E. Lownsborough (Hon. Secretary) and Mr. Wm. Browne (the President, who acted as M.C.) in securing a good time for all present. Their success was quite apparent. The company included, among others, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Arrowsmith, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Britton, Mr. and Mrs. Bolton, Mr. and Mrs. W. Chalmers, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Gamble, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Gulliver, Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Hewlett, Mr. and Mrs. Crossley Holland, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Lownsborough, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Merrin, Mr. and Mrs. H. Raithby Procter, Miss Procter, and Miss Dora Procter, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Wharnsborough, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Whigham, Mr. and Mrs. E. White, Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Wilkinson, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Dixon, and Messrs. A. R. Melhuish, C. A. Noble, C. S. Presant, and G. A. Tocher.

Evans's Entertain.—One of the largest drug-trade dinners which have been held in the Metropolis for many years took place at the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, Kingsway, W.C., on the last Wednesday evening of the year, when Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., 60 Bartholomew Close, E.C., entertained their London staff, about 330 being present. Mr. E. A. Webb presided, and was supported by Mr. W. P. Evans, of Liverpool (President of the Drug Club), Mr. F. Harwood Lescher, F.C.S., F.L.S., so long associated with the business as partner and director, Mr. H. E. Webb, and Mr. Stephen F. Webb, also directors of the company. The occasion of the dinner was to celebrate the return of Mr. Stephen F. Webb, who has just terminated a very successful trip in South Africa.

After dinner the Chairman proposed the toast of "The Staff," which was replied to by Mr. W. A. Rose. The toasts of "The Company" and "Mr. Stephen F. Webb" were proposed by Mr. F. H. Lescher, and replied to by Mr. W. P. Evans and Mr. S. F. Webb. Immediately after the toasts the company retired to the drawing-room, where songs and music were given, while the large hall was being cleared for dancing and entertainment. Among the principal items rendered were an excellent sleight-of-hand performance by Mr. Ernest Sewell and an amusing ventriloquial sketch by Mr. Frank Milton. The concert was followed by a dance, and a most enjoyable evening was spent, the guests dispersing about midnight.

A CONSPIRACY for the sale of cocaine to the "drug fiends" of Chicago, involving some of the wealthiest physicians and pharmacists, has been unearthed by secret investigators of the Civil Service Commission.—*New York Commercial*.

GERMAN POTASH SALTS.—We reported in our issue of December 2 (index folio 820) that the German potash-salts controversy had ended. The Central News New York correspondent now reports that new contracts have been signed between the American buyers and the syndicate of German potash-mine owners. The American buyers have in these contracts, it is said, yielded to the terms of the mine-owners, and thereby stand to lose \$25,000,000 (5,000,000). The dispute has lasted well over a year, and at one time threatened to bring about a general tariff war between the United States and Germany.



MR. E. A. WEBB.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Council-meeting.

THE monthly meeting was held at 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., on January 10. The heavy fog caused some delay in the proceedings, owing to the non-arrival of two of the Chairmen of Committees. The most interesting feature of the meeting was the report of the Parliamentary and General Purposes Committee, which recommended the appointment of a General Provisional Committee for the purpose of considering details in connection with the administration of the National Insurance Act. Twenty-five members are allowed for, these including seven members of the Council, five representatives of Local Pharmaceutical Associations, two of the Chemists' Defence Association, four of drug companies, and Professor Greenish. The Committee have power to add five more members if necessary. At the commencement of the meeting the President referred to the death of Sir Joseph Hooker, Mr. Stephen Darby, and Mr. Richard Ker (Stranraer). There were fifteen applicants for assistance from the Benevolent Fund, and grants amounting to 187*l.* were made. Mention was made of a scheme of collecting money for the Fund initiated by Mr. Jenkins, of Cardiff, which last year yielded over 11*l.* from seven persons who joined. Mr. Rogers raised the question as to obtaining apprentices from orphanages, in the case of those institutions where good educational advantages exist. The Society's library, which has been open on Thursday evenings till 9 o'clock, is to revert to the 6 o'clock closing hour in consequence of the poor attendance on that evening. The Benevolent Fund has benefited by a legacy of 100*l.* which was left in 1896 by Mr. Coxshott, of Bradford, and has also received a donation of 50*l.* from Mr. Thomas Kay (Stockport) and five guineas from Mr. A. J. Hughes (Wolverhampton). The by-laws regarding reciprocity of certificates with the Colonies were read a third time. The report of the Local Organisation Association raised the question as to whether that Committee is entitled to issue instructions to the Society's officers in Scotland. The President replied that what the Committee did was within its powers.

THE Councillors present were Mr. C. B. Allen (President), Mr. W. L. Currie (Vice-President), Mr. W. H. Gibson (Treasurer), and Messrs. F. E. Bilson, A. S. Campkin, W. G. Cross, J. H. Cuff, F. J. Gibson, R. L. Gifford, D. Gilmour, A. Hagon, J. F. Harrington, E. T. Neathercoat, G. T. W. Newsholme, F. A. Rogers, P. F. Rowsell, C. Symes, R. C. Walshaw, E. White, and J. R. Young.

The PRESIDENT addressed a few words of welcome to the Councillors, this being the first meeting of the year, and wished them "A Happy New Year."

DEATHS.

Reference was next made to the death of Sir Joseph Hooker, who has been an honorary member of the Society for over thirty years, and in his younger days took great interest in the work of the Society and helping in special directions. Mr. E. M. Holmes attended the funeral on behalf of the Society. Next reference was made to Mr. Stephen Darby, who died in December. Mr. Darby was an auditor in 1859 and a member of the Board of Examiners from 1867 to 1870. He was a great friend of Mr. Lloyd Bullock, a founder of the Society. Mr. Richard Ker's death was also mentioned, and his excellent work as a divisional secretary for over fifty years.

ELECTIONS.

There were elected 110 persons as members, 56 as student associates, and 34 persons were restored to their position

in the Society. Two persons had their names restored to the Register of Chemists and Druggists on payment of the fee of one guinea.

BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the Benevolent Fund Committee was taken in committee, after which

Mr. F. J. GIBSON, Chairman, moved its adoption. He said that the condition of the Fund is a little better than at the corresponding period of last year—344*l.* against 236*l.*—but that the number of applicants for relief was larger. To fifteen applicants 187*l.* was granted. He also referred to a scheme of collecting money for the Fund which has been initiated by Mr. Jenkins, of Cardiff. A number of persons agree to place 1*d.* each week in a collecting box, and this is called for each quarter. There have been seven members of the circle, and the consequence has been that Mr. Jenkins was able to send to the Society at the end of the year the sum of 11*l.* 8*s.*

Mr. ROGERS raised the question as to whether steps could be taken to inform the conductors of orphanages where a decent education is given that pharmacy is a calling worth entering. The apprentice problem is becoming very serious, he added.

Mr. HAGON, referring to Mr. Jenkins's scheme, said it entails a little work collecting the money each quarter, but that it is hoped that it would be extended to other towns.

The PRESIDENT said he thought the suggestion of Mr. Rogers might receive attention from the Library Committee. Mr. Jenkins's scheme for helping the Benevolent Fund was good, and much appreciated. In his own establishment the proceeds of the weighing machine are devoted to charity, and there is no reason why a portion of this money should not find its way to the Benevolent Fund.

The report was adopted, as was also a resolution authorising the Treasurer to pay the annuitants on the regular quarter-days during the year.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The report of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee was presented by Mr. WHITE. The report mentioned that owing to the extremely small attendance it was recommended not to keep open the library on Thursday evening, as is done at present. An account for 4*l.* 5*s.* for repairs was approved. The Dean reported to the committee that he had been appointed an examiner for Tripos at the Cambridge University, and the committee assented to his accepting the position. Miss Bartlett, the Burroughs Scholar, has finished her research, and is to submit the result to an evening meeting of the Society. The committee do not recommend the appointment of delegates to the Congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health, which is to meet in Berlin.

Mr. White having further explained some of the matters in the report, it was adopted without discussion.

FINANCE.

Mr. W. H. GIBSON, who explained that he had been delayed by the fog after having had an hour's sun-bath at Brighton, then presented the Finance Committee's report. The receipts of the General Fund amounted to 2,416*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*, made up of the following items: Penalties and costs 110*l.* 15*s.*, subscriptions 12*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*, "Journal" and publications 774*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*, school fees 9*s.* 9*p.*, registration fees 58*l.* 16*s.*, examination fees 1,402*l.* 19*s.*, restoration fees 9*l.* 18*s.*, interest on loan to Benevolent Fund 14*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*, sundry sales 23*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* The balance remaining after the payments authorised last year had been made was 101*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* The amounts recommended for payment amounted to 2,007*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*, made up as follows: "Journal" and publications 711*l.* 18*s.*, stationery, etc., 59*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*, current expenses 650*l.*, salaries etc. 325*l.*, school and examinations 67*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*, law charges 34*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, house expenses 9*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.*, library catalogue 148*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* The balance on the Benevolent Fund general account was shown at 344*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*, on the Donation Account 79*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, and on the Orphan Fund 142*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*

In moving the adoption of the report, the Treasurer said the item 650*l.* for current expenses was large, but a

large portion was for Scotland. The balance was small, but not unusual at this time of year. He further stated that the Benevolent Fund has received 90*l.* from the estate of Mr. Coxshott, who died in 1896, and left 100*l.* subject to the life interest of two nieces. Mr. Thomas Kay, Stockport, has also sent a donation of 50*l.*, and Mr. A. J. Hughes, of Wolverhampton, remitted, through Mr. F. J. Gibson, five guineas for the Fund.

Mr. F. J. GIBSON explained that Mr. Hughes is a colonial pharmacist who is now living in retirement near Wolverhampton.

The report was adopted.

APPRENTICES REGISTERED.

The Registrar submitted his monthly report on registrations as apprentices or students. Three names have been added to the register during the month.

DIVISIONAL SECRETARIES.

Mr. A. F. H. Stevens, Camborne, and Mr. W. Ker, Stranraer, were appointed divisional secretaries, the latter in place of his father, who died last month, after holding the position for fifty years.

RECIPROCITY BY-LAW.

The new by-law regarding reciprocity of pharmaceutical diplomas with the Colonies was then read a third time, and a resolution passed enabling the seal of the Society to be affixed to the by-law after approval at the general meeting of the members.

NATIONAL INSURANCE.

The report of the Parliamentary and General Purposes Committee was then read as follows :

1. The President reported upon Parliamentary matters that had transpired since the last meeting of the Committee. Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., the Parliamentary Secretary, reported upon the efforts made in the House of Lords to secure recognition for pharmacists on the Advisory and Health Committees to be set up under the Insurance Act. Subsequently the President reported that, the Council having failed to secure in the House of Lords the acceptance of the amendments moved on their behalf by Lord Werdale, he had authorised, by way of continuation of and supplemental to Mr. Glyn-Jones's action, formal application to the Commissioners for England, Scotland, and Wales respectively for the representation on the Insurance Committees which appeared to be essential to the efficient and economical administration of the pharmaceutical portion of the Medical Benefit section. The Committee recommends that its thanks be addressed to Mr. J. C. Pentney and to Lord Werdale for the valuable services rendered while the Bill was in the House of Lords.

2. The Committee took into consideration the proposed Standing Committee on National Insurance which the Council at its meeting on December 6 resolved should be appointed for the purpose of considering details in connection with the administration of the National Insurance Act. Draft suggestions were submitted by the President as to the constitution of the Committee, and after a long discussion it was resolved to recommend the Council to appoint at once a General Provisional Committee, to be constituted as follows :

Council.—Seven members, the President, Vice-President, and five others selected with a view to covering as wide a variety of pharmaceutical practice as possible.

Pharmaceutical Associations.—Five for England, three for Scotland, and three for Wales.

Chemists' Defence Association.—Two members (one Scotch).

Professor Greenish.

Boots (Cash Chemists), Ltd.—Two.

Drug Companies' Association, Ltd.—Two.

With power to add an additional five representatives if found necessary.

The Committee is of opinion that members representing local Pharmaceutical Associations should be selected so as to include adequate representation of (a) agricultural and rural districts, (b) industrial and manufacturing districts, and (c) residential and seaside districts. The Committee further reports that inquiries during the past month have elicited the fact that nearly all the bodies referred to above are willing to nominate representatives. The Committee recommends that the Provisional Committee should stand in its relation to the Council somewhat in a similar position to that occupied by an Education Committee in regard to its local authority, and that the Provisional Committee should itself create two subsidiary committees, one for Scotland

and one for Wales—all the Committees working with the Society and being subservient to it.

3. The Committee considered certain suggestions from the General Purposes Committee of the Executive of the Society's North British Branch in regard to a Scotch Committee for dealing with insurance questions coming within the scope of the Scottish Insurance Commission. The Committee thought that the Provisional Committee referred to in the foregoing paragraphs would be enabled to deal with this point quite satisfactorily.

4. The Committee considered the advisability of recommending to the Council the propriety of adding certain dangerous articles to the schedule of poisons. It was left to the President and Mr. White to confer and bring up a form of wording for the consideration of the Committee at its next meeting.

The PRESIDENT said the report deals fully with all questions before the committee on the previous evening.

There was no discussion, and the report was adopted.

The representatives of the Council on the committee were afterwards elected as follows : President, Vice-President, Mr. J. H. Cuff, Mr. F. J. Gibson, Mr. F. J. Harrington, Mr. F. P. Rowsell, and Mr. R. C. Walshaw.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS COMMITTEE.

Mr. NEATHERCOAT, who had also been delayed by the fog, arrived at this interval, and at once presented the report of the Local Associations Committee. This dealt with the meetings held or to be held by Mr. Woolcock in November, December, and January, the formation of an Association at Southend, dinners attended by members of the Council, and the weak spots in the organisation in various parts of the kingdom.

The VICE-PRESIDENT, who said he was not present at the last meeting of the committee, protested against a certain action taken by the committee, and asked : Is it the duty of the committee to make any recommendation or suggestion to any officer of the Society without reference to the Council?

The PRESIDENT replied : We think the committee has a right to act in the way it has done with its own officers.

The matter was then discussed in committee, after which the report was adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Liverpool Retail Pharmacists' Association conveyed a resolution expressing disapproval of the Insurance Act, and urged the Society to take further steps to obtain representation on the Local Committees.

This was sent for consideration by the Parliamentary Committee.

The Colonial Pharmacy Board, Cape Town, thanked the Council for their attention and courtesy to Mr. Walsh during his recent visit to England.

The Ontario College of Pharmacy wrote expressing pleasure at the proposal to pass by-laws enabling pharmaceutical reciprocity to take place with the Colonies. Approval was also expressed of the terms upon which reciprocity is proposed.

This concluded the public business.

General Meeting.

In the afternoon a general meeting of the members of the Society was held in the Lecture Theatre for the purpose of approving the new by-law regarding reciprocity of pharmaceutical diplomas. [These were printed in the *C. & D.*, November 4, 1911, index folio 690.]

The PRESIDENT was supported by nearly all the Councillors who had been at the Council meeting in the morning and, in addition, there were present about twenty ordinary members of the Society. These included Miss M. E. Buchanan, Mr. F. Bascombe, Mr. R. R. Bennett, Mr. W. F. Gulliver, Dr. W. H. Martindale, Mr. E. M. Holmes, Professor H. G. Greenish, Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, Mr. F. U. Stamp, Mr. C. J. Palmer, Mr. J. R. Wretts, and Mr. A. Wright.

The PRESIDENT opened the proceedings by calling on the Secretary to read the notice convening the meeting. This was done, and the by-laws which were to be confirmed were taken as read.

The PRESIDENT then explained that the meeting was called in compliance with the procedure laid down in the by-laws, as it was desirable to add new by-laws to carry out

the provisions of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act in regard to granting reciprocity of pharmaceutical diplomas with the Colonies. The question of reciprocity had been before the Society for years, and had been a dream of the Council for many years past. The various Bills promoted by the Society bore evidence of the intentions and desires of the Council. In 1898 the Colonial Office interested itself in the question, and had since that time aided the Society in finding a solution of the problem. The by-laws which the meeting was asked to ratify give the Society power to enter into reciprocity. The interests of registered persons are safeguarded in the last sentence of Clause 25. The registration fee has been fixed at the minimum amount which any person pays in examination fees. The President then referred to the condition upon which reciprocity will be entered into with the Colonies. [These were printed in the *C. & D.*, January 6, index folio 18.] He added that within the past year the Council had had the advantage of conferring with two or three Colonial Presidents, who had given valuable assistance, and practically agreed to the regulations which have been submitted to the various Colonial Pharmacy Boards. It would be further observed that the regulations have been framed from the point of view of the individual, and not collectively. Each case will be considered on its merits, after evidence of training and qualification has been afforded. In this way the Register of Chemists and Druggists is safeguarded. The by-laws had been read three times at separate Council-meetings, and if ratified by that meeting would be sent to the Privy Council for approval, that body having the veto in this matter.

Mr. HARRINGTON seconded, and there being no discussion the motion was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The President was accorded a vote of thanks on the motion of Mr. ROWSELL, seconded by Mr. YOUNG.

Minor Examination.

WE have received from the Registrar of the Society the following lists of persons who were granted Minor certificates at the January examinations :

BY THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR SCOTLAND.

Acharkin, Udel J. C.; Johannesburg
Anderson, William F.; Galashiels
Barratt, Herbert G.; Burton-on-Trent
Carr, William, Newcastle-on-Tyne
Clarke, Alexander, Ma'dstone
Garrie, William, Monifeth
Grant, George, Buckie
Hogg, William, Edinburgh
Hoppenstein, Solomon, Edinburgh
MacLeod, Donald A., Invergordon

MacPherson, David O., Glasgow
Paton, William D., Edinburgh
Ross, Bryce Muir, Edinburgh
Sharp, Leonard J., Melton Mowbray
Simpson, James, Peterhead
Smith, William, Glasgow
Sweeney, James, Glasgow
Tod, Adam H., Galashiels
Townell, William, Newcastle-on-Tyne
Watt, Duncan C., Oban
Wishart, David G., Aberdeen
Young, Thomas, Guildtown, Perth

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

Adams, James E., Northampton
Armitage, George H., Macclesfield
Aston, Richard N., Worthing
Bailey, Harold E., Melbourne
Baker, Charles, Brighton
Bland, Horace, Spalding
Broad, Minnie, Horncastle
Brown, Robert A., Gillingham
Cannon, Arthur C., Liskeard
Carter, Thomas H., Bridgnorth
Chalk, George, Clapham
Chatfield, Arthur F., Birmingham
Chatfield, William L., Brighton
Chipperfield, Henry A., Forest Hill
Clark, Kenneth, Smethwick
Coleman, Mary M., Wolverhampton
Cooper, William, Bath
Davies, Alan C., Blackpool
Davis, Sidney R., Exeter
Deeks, Wm. John B., Shanklin
Edmond, Susan F., Totnes
Edwards, Alfred S., Godalming
Greaves, Wm. L., Clowes
Grierson, Elsie A., Dumfries
Grimwood, Dorothy F., Wycombe
Guillaume, Bertram, Exmouth
Haigh, Henry N., Huddersfield
Harries, Gilbert J., Wolfs Castle

Harry, Charles F., Redhill
Hayes, Geo. A., Lee
Hemingway, Ralph, Bromsgrove
Heywood, Sidney, Bury
Hicks, Percy G., Lechlade
Hill, Alfred J., Sutton Coldfield
Hughes, Wm. A., Prestatyn
Jones, Daniel T., Llandilo
Jordan, Arthur F., Grays
Leighton, Gerald, Walsall
Mason, Francis E., Bromsgrove
Nicholls, Norman A., Wycombe
Palmer, Benj. W. S., Church Town
Parry, Bernard P., Sydenham
Parry, Idwal L., London
Penrose, John, Fovey
Phillips, John E., Penmaenmawr
Price, Henry T. M., Small Heath
Priddey, Geo. R., Harborne
Pumphrey, Theodore, Plymouth
Roach, John T., Lelant
Rogers, John W., Southsea
Rose, Geo. B., Oxford
Ryder, Sydney, Penrith
Shaecklock, George S., Mansfield
Shaw, Frank A., Huddersfield
Siminson, Edwin, Streatham
Smith, Wilford, Folkestone
Soanes, Ernest A., Lakenham

Symons, Walter S., Camelford
Thomas, Edward L. B., Clevedon
Thorne, Herbert L., Wrabgby
Turner, Edgar, Smethwick
Tyson, William U., Millom
Venn, Charles E., Wrexham
Walmsley, James R., Moston
Warner, Harold L., Wolverhampton

Ward, Charles F., Stratford
Webber, Victor R. J., Fenton
Williams, Claude N., Shortlands
Williams, Francis C., Dublin
Williams, Gwladys M., Liverpool
Wilson, Alexander, Blyth
Wood, Arthur W., Bath
Wright, Samuel J. M., Buxton

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND.

Council-meeting.

THE Council met at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on January 3, Mr. D. M. Watson (Vice-President) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. J. H. Bowden, J. E. Connor, G. D. Beggs (Hon. Treasurer), J. Michie, John Smith, and W. F. Wells.

THE LATE MR. J. C. C. PAYNE, PH.C.

Mr. WELLS said that before they proceeded to the regular business he thought it was only right that they should pass a vote of sympathy with the family of their late friend, Mr. John Chilcot Charles Payne, Ph.C., Belfast. Mr. Payne was one of the very earliest examined licentiates of that Society. He was up for the second examination, which was in April 1876. The next year he was elected a member of the Council—he believed he was the first who was elected from the examined members. From that time for twelve years he served the Society most faithfully. He did a great deal of work for the Society; of course, there was a lot of work to be done in those days, and he took a very active interest in the Society. At that time, when any work was to be done in the way of prosecutions or looking after their interests or inspecting certificates and matters of that kind, Mr. Payne was the one who carried it out. He was a most courteous, straightforward, upright gentleman, and it was a pleasure to those of them who were associated with him; he was sorry to say that only Mr. Beggs and himself were left on the Council of those who were members of it with Mr. Payne. He also did a great deal to raise the standard of pharmacy in Ireland. In his own business he had one of the most up-to-date, well-conducted pharmacies to be found in the country, and up to the last he stood up for pure professional pharmacy. He had ceased to be a member of the Society for some considerable time, but that was owing to the fact that he was in very bad health and was unable for a long time to attend to his own business. He (Mr. Wells) was in Belfast about six weeks ago, and he had the pleasure of a long talk with Mr. Payne, who was then most hopeful that he would recover, though he was suffering very much at the time. The next thing he heard was of his death. He was sure those of them who knew Mr. Payne would sympathise with his widow and his daughter. He therefore begged to move that they send a letter to Mrs. Payne condoling with herself and her daughter. When Mr. Payne retired from the Council they passed a special resolution thanking him for his services. It was one of the most valued heirlooms in his family; he had it framed and hung up in his office.

Mr. BEGGS seconded the vote of condolence. He said he could fully bear out everything that Mr. Wells had said. He thought Mr. Payne was the first he met on the Board, and he must say that a more courteous man it would be difficult to meet. The last time he saw Mr. Payne was, he thought, when he was President of the Conference in Plymouth. At that time he was fresh and vigorous. Within the last three or four years—he might say five years—he had been failing, and he gave up business, he thought, a year and a half ago. As Mr. Wells had said, Mr. Payne had a perfectly up-to-date place, and, in fact, his whole object was to raise the standard of the pharmaceutical chemist.

Mr. WELLS said he wished to add that Mr. Payne was elected Vice-President of the Society in 1889, but retired very shortly afterwards.

The CHAIRMAN said he had not had the pleasure of knowing the late Mr. Payne, but what Mr. Wells had said was practically what he had always understood about him

in his connection both with the Council and with the pharmaceutical profession. He was sure they would all agree that this message of sympathy should be sent to his relatives. He asked them to pass the vote in the usual manner.

The vote of sympathy was passed in silence, those present rising in their places.

ANONYMOUS LETTERS.

The CHAIRMAN said there was a matter that he thought he should mention, and that was that the Registrar was again receiving anonymous letters from men in the country alleging breaches of the Pharmacy Acts. He mentioned the matter so that it might be reported, and that men should learn that no notice would be taken of such communications. It was amazing that men should think it was possible to act on such letters. He thought all their licentiates should have intelligence enough to know that the Council could not possibly take any notice of such communications.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A card from the Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania conveying "heartiest greeting for the festive season and the best good wishes for the coming year" was received.

Mr. FERRALL (Registrar) read the following letter from Mr. Graham, Registrar-Treasurer of the Ontario College of Pharmacy, Toronto, Canada :

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that the Council of this College at November Meeting was pleased over the action lately taken by the British Pharmaceutical Society in preparing a by-law for reciprocal registration with the Colonies on payment of a registration fee of twelve guineas.

Our Society has been willing to adopt reciprocal registration for the past ten years with Great Britain and her Colonies, and at November Meeting, on application of one Mr. E. G. Wright, a member of the British Pharmaceutical Society, the following clause appeared in the Education Committee's report, and was unanimously passed by the Council:

"Re application of E. G. Wright, Toronto, who applied for registration at this College on the strength of his standing as a Licentiate of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, your Committee would recommend that inasmuch as the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has announced its acceptance of Colonial qualification and standing, we therefore recommend that so soon as the intention of the said Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain be embodied in a by-law and adopted, authorising reciprocal registration, that this application of this man be granted; we would therefore recommend that Registrar be instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain for its information, and also that he be instructed to communicate with the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, inviting reciprocal registration on the same basis."

You will see by the above report that our College is willing at any time, and invites your Society to adopt reciprocal registration with us.

Thanking you in anticipation of your submitting this letter to your Council, and hoping it will result in favourable consideration.

Believe me to remain with kind regards,

Yours very truly,

W. B. GRAHAM,
Registrar-Treasurer.

Mr. WELLS said the only reply they could send was that they had no power, that on two different occasions when Bills were before Parliament they did their level best to get a clause put in, but that it could not be done, and that when an opportunity occurred they would again seek to do it.

Mr. SMITH said the English Society had the power, but they had made conditions which were practically impossible. They wanted a twelve-guinea fee, and the qualified Colonial should show evidence of having gone through a regular curriculum before examination. They offered impossible conditions—conditions that the Colonials felt were going a little too far.

Mr. WELLS : What we wanted was that we should have power to adopt reciprocity where the conditions were sufficient to satisfy us that the qualifications were as good as ours.

Mr. SMITH said the authorities of the Ontario College were probably under the impression that the clause that applied to Great Britain also applied to Ireland. The Registrar should point out to them in his reply that that clause had not been extended to Ireland, though they

wanted it, and that under their present Act they had no power to grant reciprocity.

The CHAIRMAN : And no power under our present Act to accept any Colonial qualification.

Mr. WELLS : Mention that we cannot even reciprocate with Great Britain.

Communications were received from the following, submitting certificates from other bodies and desiring preliminary registration, which was granted : Messrs. C. L. Broderick, A. M. D. Hurley, W. E. Knox, and J. J. Somerville.

A certificate of the death of Mr. John Chilcot Charles Payne, Ph.C., Belfast, was received, and his name removed from the register.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

Communications notifying changes of address were received from the following :

F. W. Bogan, Ph.C., to 34 Botanic Avenue, Belfast.

M. Dempsey, to Croom, co. Limerick, on appointment as chemist and apothecary to Croom Union and Dispensaries.

Albert Montgomery, Ph.C., to c/o J. Eaton Drug Co., Ltd., Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

J. E. Scott, Ph.C., to The Pharmacy, Greystones, co. Wicklow.

J. A. Whitha, Ph.C., to 21 Lawrence Street, Cromwell Road, Belfast.

Wm. Fee, R.D., to 7 Elm Grove Terrace, Cliftonville Road, Belfast.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Reports from the Law Committee, the House Committee, the School Committee, the Certificates Committee, and the Declarations Committee were considered.

ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by the HON. TREASURER, the following were elected to membership :

Edward Thomas Elmes, Ph.C., 4 Winthrop Street, Cork.

Dorothea Mary Kerrigan, Ph.C., Ard na Greina, Castle-town, Geoghegan, co. Westmeath.

Matthew McDonald, Ph.C., 122 Donegall Street, Belfast.

Frederick Francis Stafford, Ph.C., Vicar Street, Tuam, co. Galway.

William Leech Young, Ph.C., Ballyroan, Queen's County.

On the motion of Mr. WELLS, seconded by Mr. WATSON, V.P., Mr. Robert J. Dillon, Ph.C., was nominated for membership.

Preliminary Examination.

Thomas Francis Reddy, Dublin, passed with Honours. The following also passed : David Meehan, Frankford, co. Kilkenny ; Thomas Byrne, Limerick ; Robert Groombridge Hood, Belfast ; William James Best, Dungannon ; Joseph Francis Webb, Kingstown ; George Chadwick Burns, Ballylinamore ; Louis Parkes, Dublin ; James Stirling, Ballynahinch, co. Down ; Elizabeth Mary Mulcahy, Dublin ; William James Bateman, Clonakilty ; John Cronin, Lis-towel ; Solomon Greenberg, Dublin ; Hugh Lyle Marshall, Ballymoney ; John Joseph Doohan, Belfast ; Robert Meek Lees, junr., Wicklow ; James Timothy O'Sullivan, Cork ; John Bourke, Dublin ; William Daniel Broderick, Fermoy. Ten candidates were rejected.

Society of Chemical Industry.

A MEETING of the London Section was held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., on January 8. Mr. E. Grant Hooper was in the chair, and opened the proceedings in a meeting which was only moderately attended by wishing all present "A Happy New Year." He also spoke upon the necessity of the members helping the Society to extend its borders still further, and mentioned that there are a few vacancies in the Dinner Club, which meets each month before the meetings.

THE OXIDATION OF TURPENTINE.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. C. T. Kingett to read a paper by himself and Mr. R. C. Woodcock on "The Production of Formic and Acetic Acids by the Atmospheric Oxidation of Turpentine." The paper is of interest from the fact that the authors are connected with the "Sanitas" Co., and because it follows up the observations which were made on the subject at a meeting of the Section in June 1910 (C. & D., June 11, 1910, index folio 901). In

continuation of the research, American turpentine, pinene prepared from American turpentine, Russian turpentine, and sylvestrene prepared from Russian turpentine were respectively mixed with their own volume of water and oxidised by a current of air at 65° C. for twenty-four hours. The aqueous solutions were then examined, and gave the following results :

| | Formic Acid per cent. | Acetic Acid per cent. |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| American turpentine ... | 0.017 | 0.038 |
| Pinene ... | 0.14 | 0.057 |
| Russian turpentine ... | 0.026 | 0.108 |
| Sylvestrene ... | 0.16 | 0.086 |

Acetaldehyde was not found, owing to the ready oxidation of that substance into acetic acid. Possibly, however, acetaldehyde and formaldehyde are formed intermediately, the two substances being converted into the corresponding acids by subsequent oxidation. American turpentine, pinene, Russian turpentine, and sylvestrene were dried over ignited calcium chloride and then oxidised with a current of dry air at 65° to 69° C. during a period of some weeks, when the oils had the following specific gravities : American turpentine 0.931, pinene 0.962, Russian turpentine 0.940, and sylvestrene 0.958. The oxidised oils were shaken up with half their volume of water and the aqueous solutions examined, with the following results :

| | Formic Acid per cent. | Acetic Acid per cent. | Peroxide of hydrogen volume. |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| American turpentine ... | 0.055 | 0.024 | 0.71 |
| Pinene ... | 0.054 | 0.186 | 0.348 |
| Russian turpentine ... | 0.13 | 0.08 | 1.06 |
| Sylvestrene ... | 0.059 | 0.264 | 0.532 |

Indications of formaldehyde were given with pinene and sylvestrene. With the two samples of turpentine, the air, after passing through the turpentine, was washed in a flask of water and the water was afterwards found to contain considerable quantities of formic and acetic acids, also peroxide of hydrogen, but only indications of formaldehyde. Peroxide of hydrogen, when added to American and Russian turpentine, produces some formic and acetic acids, but the action is slow. Formaldehyde yields formic acid when treated with peroxide of hydrogen. When acetaldehyde and formaldehyde are added to a mixture of water and turpentine and subjected to a current of air, the aldehydes are oxidised in course of time into the corresponding acids. When dried Russian turpentine is oxidised by dry air and the volatile portions condensed, a small quantity of oil is obtained, which, on being shaken with water, yields peroxide of hydrogen, formic, and acetic acids, which proves that some part of the active peroxide formed by the oxidation of the turpentine in the dry state is carried over as vapour. Water is also produced when dry turpentine is oxidised with dry air, thus indicating a splitting-up of the terpene molecule. The interpretation of the results obtained is still left in doubt, for it is not yet definitely ascertained whether the hydrogen peroxide, the formic acid, and acetic acid severally depend for their production upon the interaction of water on one organic peroxide or more than one, and whether the two acids resulting from the oxidation of formaldehyde and acetaldehyde are produced in association with the organic peroxide. It is not probable that the formic and acetic acids result entirely from the subsequent action of the peroxide of hydrogen (first produced) on the terpene molecule in view of the results obtained. The authors favour the view that one organic peroxide alone is formed, and at the same time either acetic and formic acids or acetaldehyde and formaldehyde, the two latter substances being resolved into their corresponding acids when the organic peroxide yields peroxide of hydrogen, as it does on being placed in contact with water.

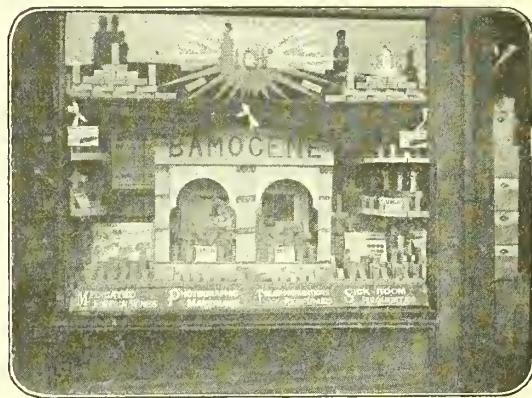
The discussion which took place was chiefly in regard to the analytical details. The Chairman asked whether any attempt had been made to find out the rate of production of acetic acid and what is the ultimate sp. gr. attained by the atmospheric oxidation. Dr. M. O. Forster inquired if efforts had been made to isolate the hydrocarbon in question, and whether care had been taken to

free the air used from carbon dioxide. Mr. Kingzett, in reply, said that the production of oxidation products was constant so long as there is terpene present. It can be continued until the oil is of the sp. gr. of water. He pointed out that the analytical methods were fully described in the previous paper. No special precautions had been taken to ensure the absence of carbon dioxide, but the operation has been conducted with pure oxygen, with a similar result, which would eliminate that source of error. Mr. Woodcock also replied, and said the time indications required by the Chairman would not have a bearing on the question unless the volume and temperature of the air were also taken into consideration.

The other papers were not of pharmaceutical interest.

CHEMISTS' WINDOWS.

New ideas for dressing windows are invited. Photographs of windows sent to the Editor for reproduction should be accompanied by notes on how the displays were arranged.



A Cough-remedy Window.

THE reproduction shows a photograph of the window of Messrs. J. Savage & Co.'s branch at 143 Legrams Lane, Bradford, dressed with one of their cough specialities. The colour-scheme of the art-muslin drapery was red, white, and blue. The centre piece is made out of packing-cases, the frame being nailed together and then covered with white ceiling paper, the silver pattern of which gives a watered-silk effect. The arches are cut from cardboard, covered with white demy, and tacked to the back of the supporting pillars. The letters are cut out of red capping paper, and shaded with blue watercolour.

The scrolls round the pillars are of the same material, and also bear the following inscriptions (in white paint) : "The cure that never fails," "Try it now," "A speedy cure for coughs and colds," "One bottle does it," "It works while you sleep," "Acts like magic."

About a foot behind the arches are suspended two coloured pictures, one representing a man sitting on an iceberg holding a bottle of the mixture in one hand and mopping his brow with the other; across the top are the words "So warming." The other is of a man sitting, his feet in a mustard bath, while at the window is a man holding up a bottle of the remedy; this is entitled "A friend in need."

At night a striking effect was produced by illuminating each picture with a powerful cycle lamp. The bottom of the window and the shelves are dressed with empty cartons. At one side is placed a card, bearing at the top the words "The cure," and a hand pointing to the card which is pasted opposite. Underneath are the words "The price," with ten pennies and one halfpenny adjusted on the same line with sealing-wax. On the window-top are more cartons, and in the middle a large sun cut out of canary-yellow tissue paper, bearing the price 10½d. and made conspicuous at night by the light behind.

The cost of materials for the display was 4s. 6d.

TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., January 11.

BUSINESS is now getting into the usual stride again, and with the resumption of the drug-auctions to-day, buyers have been covering their wants more freely. Market alterations in prices have, however, been few. In chemicals they include one of those rare advances in borax and boric acid by 10s. per ton. Ammonia sulphate is dearer at several centres. Copper sulphate is easier. Acetone has arrived more freely. Refined camphor is steady. Among fine chemicals the only change of note is an advance of from 2s. 3d. to 2s. 9d. in santonin. Morphine is unaltered. Cocaine is quiet both for crude and the hydrochloride. Among drugs, Florentine orris is again firmer, and ergot has met with an improved demand on the Continent. Buchu has been in good inquiry privately. In essential and expressed oils, apricot kernel is a shade cheaper. Dill oil from E.I. seed is dearer, and English expressed nutmeg is also higher. English peppermint oil has been reduced, and Japanese dementholised for shipment is also easier. Star anise oil is firmer and in more demand. Turpentine is cheaper. The principal alterations (including the movements at to-day's drug-auction) are as follows :

| Higher | Firmer | Easier | Lower |
|------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ammonia sulphate | Aloes (Cape) | Cardamoms | Apricot-kernel oil |
| Borax | Anise oil (Star) | Peppermint oil (Jap. c.i.f.) | Ipecacuanha |
| Boric acid | Buchu (round) | Quicksilver (sec. hands) | Menthol (auction) |
| Dill oil | Orris (Flor.) | | Peppermint oil (English) |
| Santonin | Sarsaparilla (grey Jam.) | | Rosewood oil |
| | | | Rosin |
| | | | Tonka-beans |
| | | | Turpentine |
| | | | Vanilla |

Cablegram.

NEW YORK, January 11.—Business in drugs is of moderate extent. Opium is firm at \$8.50 per lb. for druggists'. Peppermint oil in tins is quiet at \$2.85. Mexican sarsaparilla is firm at 18c. Cartagena ipecac. is easier at \$2.25. Hydrastis has declined to \$4.55. Cascara sagrada is dull at 9c. per lb., and jalap is easier at 25c. per lb.

London Markets.

ACETONE.—Arrivals recently have been on a somewhat larger scale; this week they include 39 packages from Newport News, 120 drums from St. John, N.B., and 13 packages from Hamburg.

ANISE OIL (STAR) is firmer, spot sellers now asking 6s. owing to scarcity, with buyers at 5s. 9d.; for October-December shipment 5s. 8d. c.i.f. has been paid, also 5s. 7d. c.i.f. for January-February shipment.

ANTIMONY.—English regulus is quoted 27l. 10s., less 3½ per cent., and China at 24l. per ton net. In auction 50 cases crude were held at 15l. 10s. per ton.

APRICOT-KERNEL OIL.—English expressed from peach or apricot kernels has been reduced by ½d. per lb. to 1s., and to 11d. for 1-cwt. lots; bleached is now 1s. 1d. per lb.

all net. Genuine almond oil (B.P.) is unchanged at the recent reduction to 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d. per lb.

ASAFETIDA.—The *Luristan* has this week brought 242 packages from Persian Gulf ports. It is anticipated that about 500 packages will be offered at the auction on January 25.

BERGAMOT OIL.—Quotations from primary sources are unchanged, good brands offering at 20s. 9d. to 21s. 6d. c.i.f. On the spot 22s. to 23s. is quoted as to quality for genuine. There is quite a quantity of adulterated oil offered.

BORAX.—An advance of 10s. per ton is announced by the principal controllers, the quotation for crystals being 16l. 10s. and powder 17l. 10s. *Boric acid* has also been advanced 10s. to 25l. 10s. for crystals, and 27l. 10s. per ton for powder. *Howards'* prices for refined borax are 17s. 6d. in 5-cwt. lots, 18s. 6d. for not less than 1 cwt.; powder in 5-cwt. lots 19s. 6d., not less than 1 cwt. 20s. 6d. *Boric acid* pure in 5-cwt. lots 26s. 6d., not less than 1 cwt. 27s. 6d.; powder in 5-cwt. lots 28s. 6d., and not less than 1 cwt. 29s. 6d., all net cash.

BUCHU.—Privately there is a good inquiry for export, and a very fair quantity of ovals has changed hands. There have been no arrivals this week.

CALCIUM CARBONATE.—One of the Continental makers has advanced his price 6d. to 13s. 6d. per cwt. for 1-cwt. kegs, 13s. 3d. for 2-cwt. casks, and 13s. for 5-cwt. casks, delivered ex wharf London; ton lots are 1s. 6d. less.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—Steady, the sales including Japanese ½-oz. tablets for January-February shipment at 1s. 7½d. per lb. c.i.f., and sellers of 2½-lb. slabs in the same position at 1s. 6½d. c.i.f.; the spot value of slabs is also 1s. 6½d. The arrivals comprise 525 cases from Kobe and 300 cases from Keelung. In auction 9 cases of 1½ oz. Japanese tablets were limited at 1s. 9d., and 1-oz at 1s. 8d.; also 25 cases 1-oz. at 1s. 7½d.

CARBOLIC ACID.—Crude is much dearer, East Coast for prompt delivery being nominal, and for forward 3s. 2d. per gal. is quoted for 60 per cent.; West Coast is nominal for prompt, and for forward 3s. 1d. Crystals 39° to 40° C. are 9½d. to 9½d. per lb. according to maker in bulk packing.

CARNAUBA WAX.—In Liverpool a sale of five tons chalky grey is reported at 140s. per cwt.

CINCHONA.—Further particulars in regard to the Amsterdam auction to be held on January 18 show that the 12,109 packages to be offered weigh 1,078,487 kilos., and contain the equivalent of 65,181 kilos. quinine sulphate "in the bark." The manufacturing bark weighs 951,435 kilos., and contains 60,624 kilos. q.s., and the pharmaceutical bark weighs 127,052 kilos. and contains 4,557 kilos. q.s. The average percentage of quinine in the manufacturing bark is 6.37 as compared with 6.95 in December, and 6.68 in November.

CITRATE OF LIME.—The industry in British Guiana is expanding slowly, the exports for the year ending March 31, 1911, being 7,928 lb., valued at 197/-, against 7,683 lb. in the previous year.

CITRIC ACID.—Quiet, English offering at from 1s. 4½d. to 1s. 4¾d., and foreign at 1s. 4½d. per lb.

CLOVES.—Nothing offered at auction; privately fair Zanzibar are quoted 5½d. spot, and January-March shipment at 4½d., and March-May at 5½d. per lb. c.i.f. d/w.

COCA-LEAVES.—At the Amsterdam auction to be held on January 18 the 1,189 packages to be offered weigh 62,915 kilos., containing a total of 1,022 kilos. alkaloids, the average percentage being 1.64. In the drug-auction 55 packages of fair small wild brown leaves were bought in at 10d. per lb. Of Ceylon-Huanoco, 41 bales offered, and for good green stout 1s. 8d. was refused, 1s. 10d. being wanted; brownish green ditto were held at 1s. 6d.

COD-LIVER OIL.—The new fishing is expected to open towards the close of this month, but as yet there appears to be no speculative offers for new oil. 1911 season is quoted at 104s. to 105s. on the spot.

Our Bergen correspondent writes on January 8 that the Finmarken winter fishing up to the end of December 1911 shows an unusually good catch of cod and a production of cod-liver oil in proportion. The reports of the fishing on the outer fringe of the Lofoten Islands are contradictory,

and do not yet permit of a definite opinion as to the condition of the cod and liver. The market tendency is very quiet. The first small lots of the new season's unrefined oil have fetched prices approximating about 109s. per barrel c.i.f. for prime non-congealing quality, and 1911 oil is quoted at about 103s. c.i.f. The total exports of cod-liver oil from Norway in 1911 amounted to 39,000 barrels, against 37,000 barrels in 1910.

COPPER SULPHATE is rather easier, prompt delivery offering at 22*l.* 15*s.* and February-April at 22*l.* 10*s.* to 22*l.* per ton.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Quiet at from 86*s.* to 87*s.* for 98 per cent. and 84*s.* to 85*s.* for 95 per cent.

DILL OIL.—English distilled from E. I. fruit has been advanced 1*s.* per lb. to 10*s.*, that of distilled from English fruit remaining unaltered at 12*s.*

ERGOT.—The demand in Hamburg has improved recently, according to private advices. Russian for January-February shipment is quoted at 4*s.* per lb. c.i.f. In auction 4 bags of fair sound slightly greyish Spanish were held at 5*s.*, and a further 7 bags at from 4*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*

GINGER.—At auction 828 bags washed rough Cochin were bought in at 50*s.*, and wormy ditto at 45*s.*; bold selected Calicut in cases was bought in at 95*s.* and small cut at 72*s.* 6*d.*; 40 bales Formosa sold at 34*s.* for dark and lean coarse. Privately sales of Japanese for February-March shipment have been made at 28*s.* 9*d.* c.i.f. London.

GLYCERIN.—At a meeting of the Convention held last week it was decided to make no change for the present. The official prices were quoted in our issue of December 23.

LEMON OIL is unaltered, shippers' quotations for the best brands being from 5*s.* to 5*s.* 3*d.* per lb. c.i.f. for new crop.

An advice from Palermo dated January 6 states that the position continues uncertain. Pressings are still slow, and the quantity offered for sale, not already engaged for previous contracts, has been such as to permit the sellers not to allow the existing strain on the market to weaken in any way. A fair interest is being shown by buyers on foreign account, and inquiries are plentiful, although they do not always lead to business. For February shipment new crop is quoted at 5*s.* 2*d.* per lb. c.i.f. London.

MILK-SUGAR.—Further business is reported this week at 90*s.* for spot, and several sales on export account have been made; 100 cases have arrived from Amsterdam.

NUTMEG OIL.—English expressed is 6*d.* per lb. higher at 3*s.* 6*d.*, owing to the dearer rates for the spice.

OPIUM.—There has again been a comparative absence of news and cables from primary markets, and what offers have been made are not firm, the lowest quotation having been 27*s.* 6*d.* per lb. c.i.f. for 11 per cent. Persian for February-March shipment could probably be had at 27*s.* 6*d.* c.i.f., and 6*d.* less has been refused; in spot stuff 28*s.* 6*d.* has been paid in a retail way, and there are buyers at the figure. It is said there are less than 27 cases of Persian in London. An arrival of 82 cases opium has taken place from Marseilles, but they are practically all sold for arrival.

A Smyrna correspondent writes on December 29 again reporting a very quiet week, without business. Sellers continue to maintain a very firm position, knowing well that the small existing stock in their hands will all be consumed before the spring, and that full prices will be paid. The weather continues wet and mild, and although holders make out that the sowings hitherto are on a very small scale, still this must be taken with reserve, as it is unlikely that at these high figures the opium-growers will leave even an inch of ground unsown, unless the weather conditions prevents them. What we greatly fear is severe frost setting in, which will put a stop to all field work. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 1,063 cases, against 4,223 cases at same period last year.

Reviewing the month of December, Smyrna again reports fair activity, with a material advance in prices. Some 223 cases changed hands, commencing at 27*s.* 6*d.* for new Karahissar and 28*s.* 6*d.* for old, ending at 30*s.* 6*d.* for the former and 31*s.* 9*d.* for the latter. The future position depends entirely on the demand from consumers, for, notwithstanding depleted stocks everywhere, a protracted absence of demand will cause a reaction to set in, so the figures are high enough to cause some anxiety on the part of holders. The interior reports beneficial rains throughout the month, and the winter sowings have therefore been carried out under favourable conditions. The arrivals to date amount to 1,063 cases, against 4,223 at corresponding period last year, and in Constantinople 1,236, against 4,037.

The stock in Smyrna is about 628 cases, and in Constantinople 388, against 1,268 and 903 respectively on December 31, 1910.

ORANGE OIL.—Both sweet and bitter of new crop are quoted at 7*s.* 9*d.* to 7*s.* 10*d.* per lb. c.i.f.

ORRIS.—Market for Florentine descriptions still shows a rising tendency, prices having advanced 3*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. from lowest; good sorts are now worth from 45*s.* to 47*s.* 6*d.* net c.i.f.

PEPPERMINT OIL.—As the result of slack demand, English is rather cheaper, distillers offering genuine at 34*s.* per lb. net. Privately business has been done in Suzuki for January shipment at 6*s.* 6*d.* c.i.f. being easier. Fifty cases have arrived from Kobe. In auction 7 cases Suzuki were bought in at 7*s.* 4*d.*

POTASSIUM IODIDE.—The exports from Japan during October amounted to 5,513 kin. (7,350 lb.); during the ten months (January-October) the exports were—1909, 24,116 kin.; 1910, 44,925 kin.; and 1911, 42,853 kin. Of *Crude iodine*, the exports in October were 1,506 kin.; ten months' exports were: 1909, 13,082 kin.; 1910, 9,093 kin.; and 1911, 11,390 kin.

QUICKSILVER.—The principal importers' price is unaltered at 8*l.*, second-hands closing at 7*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per bottle, which is 1*s.* easier than our previous quotation.

ROSEWOOD OIL which is distilled in Cayenne (French Guiana) and Grasse has declined lately, current quotations for large quantities being from 8*s.* 3*d.* to 8*s.* 6*d.* per lb.

ROSIN.—Common strained is lower at 17*s.* 3*d.* per cwt. ex wharf.

SANTONIN.—On Monday the Syndicate controlling the manufacture announced an advance of from 2*s.* 3*d.* on the minimum quantity to 2*s.* 9*d.* per lb. on the smallest lots, the following being the quotations: Two cwt. in one delivery, 60*s.*; 1 cwt., 61*s.* 9*d.*; 56 lb., 63*s.* 3*d.*; 28 lb., 64*s.* 6*d.*; and smaller quantities, 66*s.* 3*d.*, all per lb. net.

SHELLAC has been quiet, with small spot sales on a basis of 63*s.* for TN orange; for arrival December-January shipment is offered at 62*s.* c.i.f. and A C Garnet for February-March shipment at 62*s.* c.i.f. Futures are firm, the sales including March at 64*s.* and May at 65*s.*

TARTARIC ACID.—Quiet at from 1*s.* 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.* for English from makers, and 1*s.* 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* for foreign for prompt delivery.

TONKA-BEANS are arriving more freely, especially on the Hamburg market; privately 4*s.* will buy fair black Para. In the drug-auction fair black Para were obtainable at 4*s.*; for frosted Angostura 18*s.* was bid and refused—20*s.* will buy.

TURPENTINE OIL has declined about 1*s.* 9*d.* per cwt. on the week, closing at 36*s.* per cwt. on the spot and 36*s.* 3*d.* for February-April delivery.

VANILLA.—At auction the small supply of 372 tins (mostly Seychelles) offered, and the bulk sold at an average decline of about 1*s.* per lb. Fair to good Seychelles 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. sold at 17*s.* 6*d.* to 18*s.*; 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. 15*s.* 6*d.* to 17*s.* 6*d.*; 3 to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., 13*s.* to 16*s.*; common 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., 11*s.* to 15*s.*; and mouldy, etc., 7*s.* to 13*s.*; 33 tins Tahiti sold at 11*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.* for 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

London Drug-auctions.

Fog somewhat interfered with the inspection of the drug-samples on Wednesday, but fortunately it was only temporary. As is usual at the first auctions of the year, the demand was not brisk, as stocktaking operations in the home trade are not yet fully completed. Although a large supply of Cape aloes offered, prices on the whole were firmer owing to the home pill-trade demand. Socotrine and Zanzibar were neglected. Buchu-leaves were in better demand at firmer prices. Sumatra benzoin was steady, the bulk of the business to-day being done privately. Siam is still held for very high prices. The limited selection of cardamoms offered partly sold at slightly easier rates; seed, however, is scarce. Calumba is in heavy supply and neglected. Re-boiled dragon's-blood was firm, and of gamboge small sales were made at steady prices. Fine set Jamaica honey sold well at firm rates, but New Zealand was neglected. Ipecacuanha met with a decline of from 6*d.* to 8*d.* per lb on previous rates for Matto Grosso and Minas. Myrrh was steady. Rhubarb was quite neglected, and for grey Jamaica sarsaparilla 1*d.* advance was paid.

owing to scarcity, while native Jamaica was held at firm rates. Tinnevelly senna, considering the quality, sold at unaltered rates, and slightly more demand was evinced for Alexandrian. Beeswax was generally firm, but only small sales were made.

| | Offered | Sold | | Offered | Sold |
|---------------------------|---------|------|--------------------------|---------|------|
| Agar-agar | 7 | 0 | Ipecacuanha— | | |
| Aloes, Cape | 116 | 78 | Cartagena | 12 | 0 |
| Socotrine (kegs) | 45 | 0 | Matto Grosso | 15 | 3 |
| Zanzibar (cs.) | 22 | 0 | Minas | 10 | 7 |
| Ambergis (tin) | 1 | 0 | Jalap | 11 | 0 |
| Ammoniacum | 18 | 0 | Kamala | 5 | 0 |
| Anise | 60 | 0 | Kola | 44 | 11 |
| Anise, star | 45 | 0 | Lime-juice | 11 | 0 |
| Annatto-seed | 85 | 0 | Lime oil | 2 | 2 |
| Antimony (cr.) | 50 | 0 | Liq. root | 64 | 0 |
| Areca | 45 | 7 | Mangrove bark | 271 | 0 |
| Araroba | 4 | 0 | Menthol | 5 | 5 |
| Asafoetida | 61 | 0 | Myrrh | 32 | 12 |
| Balsam tolu | 9 | 0 | Olibanum | 22 | 0 |
| Peru | 6 | 0 | Orange-peel | 20 | 0 |
| Bay oil | 1 | 0 | Pareira brava | 38 | 0 |
| Benzoin— | | | Patchouli-leaves | 55 | 0 |
| Palembang | 38 | 0 | Peppermint oil | 7 | 0 |
| Siam | 7 | 0 | Rhubarb (China) | 38 | 3 |
| Sumatra | 61 | 12 | Saffron (tins) | 20 | 0 |
| Birdlime | 5 | 0 | Salep | 3 | 0 |
| Buchu | 50 | 13 | Sarsaparilla— | | |
| Butter beans | 370 | 0 | Grey Jam | 2 | 2 |
| Calumba | 482 | 50 | Honduras | 3 | 0 |
| Camphor (Ch. cr.) | 3 | 0 | Native Jam | 8 | 2 |
| Camphor (Jap. ref.) | 44 | 0 | Scablae | 20 | 0 |
| Canella alba | 5 | 0 | Scammonium (bxs.) | 8 | 0 |
| Cannabis indica | 68 | 0 | Seedlac | 206 | 0 |
| Cardamoms & seed | 130 | 37 | Senna and pods— | | |
| Cascarilla | 17 | 0 | Alex. | 157 | 26 |
| Cashew nuts | 51 | 0 | Tinnevelly | 407 | 272 |
| Cinnamon oil | 15 | *1 | Soy | 16 | 0 |
| Civet (hrns.) | 5 | 0 | Sticklac | 43 | 0 |
| Coca-leaves | 208 | 92 | Tamarinds | 309 | 16 |
| Colocynth and pulp | 45 | 3 | Thyme-seed | 230 | 0 |
| Cubeb | 122 | *5 | Tonka beans (Para) | 7 | 0 |
| Cumin-seed | 9 | 0 | Tragacanth | 29 | 29 |
| Cuttlefish-bone | 168 | 0 | Turmeric | 703 | 0 |
| Divi-divi | 311 | 0 | Vermilion | 15 | 0 |
| Dragon's-blood | 40 | 7 | Wax (bees)— | | |
| (reed) | 27 | 0 | Abyssinian | 8 | 8 |
| (Zan. drp p) | 21 | 0 | Aden | 10 | 10 |
| Ergot | 11 | 0 | Cape | 16 | 0 |
| Eucalyptus oil | 19 | *4 | China | 14 | 0 |
| Fennel-seed | 431 | 0 | East Indian | 68 | 0 |
| Galls (Pers.) | 16 | 0 | Egyptian | 3 | 0 |
| Gamboge | 26 | 1 | Jamaica | 26 | 10 |
| Gentian | 60 | 13 | Morocco | 9 | 0 |
| Gum acacia | 43 | 0 | Mozambique | 68 | 15 |
| Gurjun balsam | 149 | 0 | Spanish | 18 | 0 |
| Honey, Jamaica | 153 | 145 | West India | 1 | 1 |
| N.Z. | 91 | 13 | Zanzibar | 11 | 0 |
| St. Lucia | 20 | 20 | Wax, Jap. (veg.) | 29 | 0 |

* Sold privately.

AGAR-AGAR.—Seven bales Kobe No. 1 strip sold without reserve at 1s. 7½d.

ALOES.—It was thought that Cape would have been lower, owing to the large quantity offered, but an unexpected demand from British pill-makers influenced prices upwards to the extent of about 1s. per cwt. Good hard bright Mossel Bay firsts, on 20 per cent. tares, sold at 33s. 6d. to 34s.; fair to good seconds, 32s. to 33s.; ordinary seconds, 31s.; dull and drossy, 29s. 6d. to 30s. 6d.; slightly soft, 29s.; and common dull hard, 28s. On estimated tares, 20 cases Algoa Bay sold at 33s. for fair firsts, 31s. for good seconds, 28s. for dullish seconds, and 27s. 6d. for dull softish and hard mixed.

ARECA.—Seven bags of clean bright Ceylon, all more or less weevilly, sold at 1s. 6d. per cwt.

BALSAM PERU.—A new lot of direct import from Acajutla was offered at 7s. 9d. per lb.

BALSAM TOLU.—Four cases of small tins of fair flavour were bought in at 3s., and for hard, slightly drossy, 2s. 6d. was wanted.

BENZOIN.—Quiet but firm; 12 cases Sumatra realised from 7l. to 7l. 2s. 6d. per cwt. for ordinary seconds, slightly false packed sides, and the remaining 18 cases of the pile were afterwards sold privately. Of Palembang, 38 cases offered; good glassy seconds, in small blocks in boxes, with almond centres, were held at 100s., and

fair seconds in tins were bought in at 75s. Seven cases of Siam of fine quality were catalogued; 33l. per cwt. was wanted for small to bold loose almonds of good flavour, and a bid of 32l. is to be submitted for a case; for pea and bean size 18l. 10s. was refused, 22l. being wanted.

BUCHU.—The public demand was better than has been the case for months past, 13 bales changing hands at rather firmer prices for round, ovals and longs being unchanged. A bale of good greenish round sold at 4s. 3d., but the bulk sold was fair round greenish, rather stalky, which realised 4s., and for rather yellowish 3s. 10d. was paid. Fair ovals, slightly stalky, sold at 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d., very stalky at 1s. 8d., yellowish, mixed with sand, at 1s. 7d. Good green long sold at 2s., and stalky ditto, with chopped stems, 1s. 8d. per lb.

CALUMBA.—Fifty bags of fair natural brown sorts sold at from 14s. to 15s. 6d., and for 119 bags of better quality the buying-in price was 20s.

CARDAMOMS.—With a very limited selection offered the demand was slow, prices being somewhat easier. Ceylon-Mysore, good bold palish, sold at 3s. 2d.; bold dullish, 3s.; bold medium palish, 2s. 10d. to 2s. 11d.; small and medium ditto, 2s. 7d.; splits and pickings, 2s. 5d.; dull grey seed, 2s. 8d.; Ceylon-Malabar, bold medium brown, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 7d.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Fifty bags of fair thin practically two-year-old were held at 40s. per cwt.

COCA-LEAVES.—A lot of 92 bags ground Java sold at 7½d. per lb., and sweepings at 5d. per lb.

COLOCYNTH.—Two bags of pulp sold at 4d., and powdered, part blocky, at 3½d. per lb.; 43 bales of pulp were held at 6½d. per lb.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—Good Singapore reboiled lump, of which 10 cases were put up, sold at 11l. 10s. for 3 cases; 2 cases of pickings from the reboiled sold at 6l. 10s. For 2 cases middling damp Singapore lump 6l. 5s. was paid. Fair Reed was held at 9l. 10s. and 21 cases Zanzibar drop at 40s. per cwt. The *Alsuta Maru* has brought 20 cases from Singapore.

EUCALYPTUS OIL.—For 67-per-cent. eucalyptol (Parry) 1s. 3d. was wanted; part of the parcel had been sold privately. The *Baralong*, from Melbourne, has brought 200 cases.

GAMBOGE.—Fair partly blocky Siam pipe was limited at 12l. 7s. 6d. per cwt., and for a case of good pickings 11l. was paid without reserve.

GENTIAN.—For very lean and chumpy quality 23s. 6d. was asked, and for 13 bags of soft chumpy 11s. per cwt. was paid without reserve; 24 bags of cut were held at 31s.

HONEY firm. Of Jamaica, 152 packages practically all sold with a ready demand, comprising fine pale set at 37s. 6d. to 38s., fair to good ditto 35s. 6d. to 36s. 6d., pale brownish set and setting 32s. to 34s., darkish to dark brown set 31s. 6d. to 30s.; of St. Lucia, nine cases sold at 30s. 6d. for dark setting brown, and 20s. for common in barrels; 82 cases New Zealand offered, and four sold at 35s. for pasty white. Nine cases of brown candied setting from St. Lucia sold without reserve at 27s. 6d. per cwt., and nine cases of common brown New Zealand sold at 26s. per cwt.

IPECACUANHA lower. On the usual conditions, three bales of mostly fair stout native-picked Matto Grosso sold at 8s. 6d. per lb., and for two bales fair cultivated Minas 8s. 4d., these prices being 6d. to 8d. cheaper. Five bales ordinary lean Minas sold without reserve at from 8s. 3d. to 8s. 5d. per lb. The limit for fair average Cartagenas is now 8s. 6d., at which 12 packages offered.

KOLA.—Steady; 11 bags of fair halves and whole St. Lucia sold at from 5½d. to 3½d., and fair Dominica at 3½d.

LIME OIL.—Two cases of West Indian distilled sold at from 1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—A parcel of 64 bales lean decorticated Russian was limited at 20s. per cwt., and a bid of 16s. is to be submitted.

MENTHOL.—Previous to the auction sellers of Suzuki quoted 26s. and 27s. 6d. for Kobayashi on the spot. In

auction 5 cases Kobayashi sold without reserve at from 23s. 10d. to 24s. per lb. Privately a very limited quantity can be had ex auction at 25s. The exports from Japan during October amounted to 9,393 kin (12,524 lb.), valued at 80,576 yen; for the ten months ending October the exports are :

| | 1909 | 1910 | 1911 |
|-----|---------|---------|---------|
| Kin | 72,698 | 95,195 | 85,525 |
| Yen | 344,091 | 507,387 | 672,188 |

The *peppermint oil* exports in October were 13,330 kin, and for the ten months : 1909, 119,336 kin; 1910, 120,270 kin; and 1911, 126,782 kin.

MIRRH.—Steady; 12 bags small clean Somali sorts sold at 52s. 6d. per cwt., and for 10 bags of small, part very blocky, the buying-in price was 52s. 6d.

OLIBANUM.—For 10 cases of fair small drop 50s. was wanted, and for garblings 26s. was asked.

RHUBARB was in retail demand, a case of small round and trimming Shensi, with three-quarters pale pinky fracture, slightly stalky, sold at 1s. 8d., and for a case of bold flat High-dried, with three-quarters fair fracture and rather dullish coat, 9½d. was paid. A case of medium round Shensi, with three-quarters fair fracture, one-quarter dull and dark, sold without reserve at 1s. 3d.; 12 cases of flat High-dried were bought in at from 10d. to 10½d. for small to bold of very fair fracture.

SARSAPARILLA.—In small supply and rather firmer for genuine grey Jamaica, 2 bales only of which offered and sold at 1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d. for fair, somewhat coarse. Native Jamaica was firm, fair red selling at 1s. 1d. and dull red at 11½d.; in another instance 2 bales red and yellow mixed native were held at 1s. 1d., and 3 bales Honduras at 1s. 5d. per lb. Eighteen bales grey Jamaica are about landing, and will be offered at the next auction; they are badly wanted.

SENNA sold at unaltered rates, the bulk of the Tinnevelly leaf being common to ordinary small, which sold at from 1d. to 1½d., middling greenish 2d. to 2½d., and boldish 2½d. per lb. *Pods* sold at 1d. to 1½d. for dark and damaged to fair. Of Alexandrian, nine bales of pods sold at from 5½d. to 7d. Siftings were limited at 3d., broken leaf at 3½d. to 4d., and whole leaf 6d. to 8d. per lb. as to quality.

TAMARINDS.—Sixteen bales of fair dry Antigua in bond sold at 12s. 6d. per cwt. in bond, and for 64 casks fair Calcutta 11s. 6d. was wanted.

TURMERIC.—The bulk of the supplies consisted of Cochin finger and split bulbs, fair quality of which was held at 22s. and 15s. respectively. Madras finger was limited at from 26s. to 27s. as to quality. Prices continue to remain high in India.

VARIOUS DRUGS.—The following goods were among the bought-in lots : Ten cases Chinese (Wingkat) *Vermilion* were held at 3s. per lb.; 104 bags fair E.I. *Fennel-seed* at 22s. 6d.; 9 bags E.I. *Cumin-seed* at 30s.; 25 cases *Japan wax* at 41s. 6d.; 99 drums *Gurjun oil* from Singapore at 4d. per lb.; 11 bags *Jalap* (9.44 per cent. Harrison) at 1s. 3d.

WAX (BEES').—Firm. Eight bales Abyssinian sold at 7l. for fair block, and a case of good West Indian went at 7l. 10s. Jamaica was firm, ten packages selling at 7l. 10s. for good to fair red and brown, which price has been paid privately; 15 bags of drossy Mozambique broken undeveloped ball sold at 6l. 10s., small ball at 6l. 12s. 6d., and pipe at 6l. 12s. 6d. Good yellow Mozambique pipe was held at 7l. 5s., and business was subsequently done at this price.

Heavy Chemicals.

The condition of the heavy-chemical market is very satisfactory for so early a period in the year. There has been a good general demand both for main and miscellaneous products, and the prospects are bright and encouraging, if only labour troubles in other trades do not come. Values are on the steady side.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—Bleaching-powder is in fair request at 4l. 15s. to 5l. per ton for softwood casks on rails prompt; contract basis is still 4l. 2s. 6d. to 4l. 7s. 6d. Caustic soda is moving well, home trade, 76 to 77 per cent., 10l. 7s. 6d.; 70 per cent., 9l. 12s. 6d.; and 60 per cent., 8l. 12s. 6d., with export figures 7s. 6d. per ton less. Ammonia alkali, 58 per

cent., 4l. to 4l. 5s. per ton in bags on rails, and 4l. 15s. in casks f.o.b. Liverpool. Soda crystals 2l. 2s. 6d. to 2l. 5s. per ton in bags on rails. Bicarbonate of soda 5l. to 5l. 15s. per ton, according to packages, etc. Chlorates of potash and soda 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb. Yellow prussiates are on the firmer side, potash at 4½d. and soda at 3d. Hyposulphite of soda is quiet and somewhat irregular, though a range of 4l. 12s. 6d. to 5l. 5s. per ton for ordinary crystals in casks, according to quantity, about represents the position. Deliveries in 1-cwt. kegs 5l. 7s. 6d. to 7l. 15s. per ton, according to quality and quantity. Silicates of soda in good average request, 140° Tw. 4l. 7s. 6d. to 4l. 17s. 6d.; 100° Tw. 3l. 17s. 6d. to 4l. 7s. 6d.; and 75° Tw. 3l. 10s. to 4l. per ton, according to quality, quantity, and destination.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is on the firm side, and parcels offered are well taken up. Present nearest figures: Beckton, prompt, 25 per cent. ammonia guaranteed, 13l. 17s. 6d.; London terms, 13l. 10s. to 13l. 12s. 6d.; Leith, 14l. 7s. 6d. to 14l. 8s. 9d.; Liverpool, 14l. 6s. 3d. to 14l. 7s. 6d.; and Hull, 14l. 5s.

Manchester Chemical Market.

January 9.

Returns of exports for December are scarcely so satisfactory as has been the case for some months, and locally business is quiet owing to the lock-out in the cotton trade. Many on the Exchange were in hopes that a settlement would be reached to-day, but such had not been reached at the time of writing. In consequence of keen competition, soda crystals are being quoted at very low prices for contracts, generally 40s. to 42s. 6d. per ton f.o.r., while for quantity even lower prices are spoken of. In other respects, prices of alkalies are fairly well maintained for both prompt and forward delivery. Sulphate of copper is rather easier, at 23l. 12s. 6d. to 23l. 15s. per ton for best brands, Manchester, but some second-hand lots are on the market, which have to be cleared at nominal prices. White powdered arsenic is steady at late rates. Recovered sulphur is easier at 4l. 12s. 6d. to 4l. 15s. per ton on rails. Brown acetate of lime is quoted 6l. 12s. 6d. and grey 10l. 5s. per ton c.i.f. terms. Coal-tar products remain firm. Sulphate of ammonia is dearer at 14l. 3s. 9d. to 14l. 5s. per ton, f.o.r. Manchester.

The Quicksilver Market.

The market for some weeks past has shown a good deal of irregularity. In the last few months the general demand would appear to have been rather disappointing, compared with what it was in the earlier part of the past year, when unusually heavy export-trade requirements were largely responsible for the rise to 10l. per bottle, the highest record seen in modern times. The lowest price accepted in 1911 was 7l. 10s., so that the range of prices has been 2l. 10s. per bottle, which is in excess of the range recorded in any year for some decades past. The narrowest movement was 3s. per bottle in 1902—namely, between 8l. 14s. 6d. and 8l. 17s. 6d.—while the price fluctuated 10s. in 1903 and 1900, in which years quicksilver sold up to 8l. 15s. and 9l. 12s. 6d. respectively. The variations in prices for years past have been apparently more determined by the extent of the world's requirements than by the progress of the output, the latter not having fluctuated much, the falling-off in Spain having been generally made good by increased supplies from other sources.

Last October the first-hand quotation was reduced from 8l. 12s. 6d. to 8l. 10s., and by December 5 it was brought down to 8l. 2s. 6d. At the latter date the price was thus dropped a trifle below the figure quoted by second-hand sellers, while there were buyers at that time of small lots at about 8l. 3s. per bottle. The slackness of demands, however, with the turn of the year has induced the leading importing firm to part with a large quantity at 7l. 15s., but its official quotation was not actually dropped below 8s. per bottle on January 2, contrary to what was reported in the daily Press. The former price, indeed, referred only to a large transaction, the price being simultaneously issued officially to 8l. This incident, by the way, caused a good deal of irritation among people who were led astray. The market since has remained very quiet, there being no special inquiry from abroad. There are now second-hand lots offering at 7l. 17s. 6d., but there is no real pressure to sell. The present slackness is ostensibly not the result of outside competition, but it is merely attributed to the law of supply and demand. The imports into Great Britain since 1904 have been steadily on the increase, although there was a slight falling-off in 1909. Whereas the figures for 1902 totalled 33,192 bottles, they have increased, in 1911 (this covering a period of ten years) to 46,547 bottles, the corresponding figures of exports being 19,519 bottles (in 1902) and 31,438 bottles (in 1911). The latter is by far in excess of any previous records, showing an increase of about 6,700 bottles compared with 1910.

TRADE-MARKS.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications must be stated on Form T.M. No. 7 (obtainable at Money Order Offices for £1) and lodged with Mr. Temple Franks, Comptroller-General, Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned.

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are desired.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," January 3, 1912.)

"FOGORTY"; for chemicals (1). By Thomas Durrans, 29 Upper Baker Street, London, N.W. 338,171.

"POPPUM"; for an insect-powder (2). By R. Hughes, 606 Harrow Road, London, W. 336,649.

Label device containing word "MULTEGG"; for a hennetic (2). By E. H. M. Wright, Grinshill Vicarage, near Shrewsbury. 336,926.

"TRANSIT"; for agricultural chemicals (2). By E. F. Heley, The Old House, Aylesbury Road, Wing, Leighton Buzzard. 338,143.

"WILD ROSE"; for a cough-cure (3). By J. A. Deakin, 37 Thomond Terrace, North Circular Road, Dublin. 336,547.

"LARATOL"; for a medicine (3). By Gustav Weil, 151 Strand, London, W.C. 337,613.

"FISHMAN"; for cod-liver oil emulsion (3). By Scott & Bowme, Ltd., 10-11 Stonecutter Street, London, E.C. 337,972.

"DURCO"; for a dental modelling composition, etc. (11). By Ryan & Walmsley, 13 South Wharf, Paddington, London, W. 337,130.

Label device of "BIRD'S BAKING-POWDER"; for baking-powder (42). By Alfred Bird & Sons, Ltd., Devonshire Works, Birmingham. 350,681.

Label device including words "HEALTH COCOA," etc., and picture of "HYGEIA"; for cocoa (42). By Henry Thorne & Co., Ltd., Lady Lane, Leeds. 337,192/3/4.

"CADBURY" and picture of tree with words "THE MARK OF PURITY" and "CADBURY BROTHERS, LIMITED"; for food substances (42). By Cadbury Bros., Ltd., Bournville, Birmingham. 338,139.

"PURETTE"; for all goods (47 and 48). By George Staley, The Grove, Nottingham Road, Tansley, Matlock. 329,714.

"BUTTERFLY" and sketch of same; for a soap (48). By J. Crosfield & Sons, Ltd., Bank Quay, Warrington. 336,001.

Synthetic Sentences.

We are offering six half-guineas as prizes for sentences made up of words selected from the advertisements in the "C. & D. Diary, 1912." Appended are some of the sentences received. Others should be sent as soon as possible.

The trade look to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST for up-to-date information on all matters affecting pharmacy.—*J. Thomas (Cheltenham).*

The weekly C. & D., with its perfect Diary, are the finest elements chemists ever see.—*Jesse Millard (Horfield).*

Act well your part; there all the honour is. Buy well; there all the profit returns.—*L. J. Kemp (Muswell Hill, N.).*

Pears' at any moment during the year aids to fortune, you know, dear Mr. Publisher. Eureka!—*Esther Le Gallais (88 New Bond Street, W.).*

Origan. (thyme). cantharid. (flies). Send in your post-card for The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary Competition.—*D. Dunnet (Tayport, Fife).*

The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary is the best of all books for those in the trade.—*J. W. Jackson (St. Helens, Lancs).*

Again the Diary is full of good advice to the pharmacist who will but see it.—*Fred Joteham (Melton Mowbray).*

Pears' soap is the best of all soaps, and is used by King, Queen, and subject.—*C. F. Yates (Isleworth).*

Reliability in quality and unique advertising are the foundation of success in business.—*Fritz Mentzel (Leverkusen, Mülheim a. Rhein).*

The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary is of the highest value to the up-to-date and successful chemist.—*R. B. King (Breaminster).*



MEMORANDA FOR CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest. Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

TRADE MIS-REPRESENTATION.

SIR,—We wish to caution chemists against an individual who is falsely stating that he is representing us, and on the strength of this statement is trying to borrow small sums, generally varying as a rule from 2s. 6d. to 10s. This man's usual method is to pretend that he is representing us and has a cheque of ours for several pounds in his pocket, but that he has suddenly found himself without any actual cash. We have quite recently heard of three instances in the London district, and we shall esteem it a favour if any chemist on whom this fraud is attempted will communicate instantly with us so that our solicitors may immediately deal with the matter. Our only London representative is Mr. J. Kenningham, who has been with us for more than twenty years. Yours faithfully,

For Condy & Mitchell, Ltd.,
H. J. BOLLMANN CONDY,

65 Goswell Road, London. Managing Director.

COPIES OF PRESCRIPTIONS.

We have had some correspondence with Mr. John D. Marshall, of Messrs. John Bell & Croyden, Ltd., 50 Wigmore Street, W., on this subject. He has been asked by the Western Pharmacists' Association to deal with it at a meeting of the members, more on the human aspects of the matter than on the legal, the latter being fully gone into in "The Art of Dispensing," where the question, "Has a customer a right to demand a copy of a prescription from a pharmacist?" is discussed by experts, and the whole matter summed up in the two following business tenets :

(1) The chemist's prescription-book is his own property, created, apart from legal obligations in regard to poisonous remedies, for the purpose of facilitating business with those for whom he originally dispensed the prescription.

(2) It is permissible, in some cases, advisable, to give copies of the prescriptions to the original holders thereof, but it is not advisable to give copies to others.

With these Mr. Marshall agrees, but he asks pharmacists and dispensers to supply him with the originals or copies of any curious letters that have been addressed to them demanding copies of prescriptions originally presented by the writers or of other persons' prescriptions. Mr. Marshall illustrates what he wants by two incidents which occurred in his pharmacy one day last week. A customer asked for a copy of a prescription originally written by a physician, now dead, and first dispensed by another historic firm no longer in the retail, who gave a copy of the prescription which Mr. Marshall's firm had dispensed and copied in their book. The customer now demanded a copy of Messrs. John Bell & Croyden's copy, and that it should be sent without delay. What should be done in such circumstances? The second request was from a lady in Italy demanding a copy of a prescription for Stehr's pills, saying that she had given it to Messrs. John Bell & Croyden. It so happens that the formula for the pills is a private one, and the only scrip that the firm ever had from the lady was a piece of paper with the order "Please supply Stehr's Pills." It appears that the lady had got this from a gentleman of her acquaintance from whom she had previously got the pills, and he had no more property in the prescription than the lady, as that property solely rests in John Bell & Croyden. It will be seen from these

examples that Mr. Marshall has started on an interesting line of inquiry, and if some of our readers send him post-cards containing only one such incident that they have experienced, he will have the material for a lively evening's entertainment.

Sidelines to Pharmacy.

SIR.—It is to be hoped that British chemists will realise that they themselves are quite competent to run their own businesses, and need no assistance whatever from transatlantic organisations. From my experience the British chemist has nothing to learn from the American drug-store; but should he wish to hide his drugs behind an array of candies, cigars, whisky, etc., there are plenty of British firms who are able to supply him with goods of a quality superior to that of any country in the world. We are informed that many of the Rexall stores make a profit of 1,000*l.* a year and over; it is just as well to know, however, that there are very many more which do not. Also figures quoted in connection with foreign countries are nearly always misleading; the purchasing power of 1,000*l.* in the United States is equal to about 500*l.* in England. Hence the purchaser of the humble pennyworth in England would have to spend 5*c.* in the States. It seems certain that there are no figures available as to profits obtained by those who deal strictly in things medical and pharmaceutical in the States.

Yours faithfully,

P. L. SMITH.

Osaka, Japan.

Applying for a Vacancy and the Result.

SIR.—Some time ago a young friend of mine replied to an advertisement for a junior assistant. The letter No. I. he received from the chemist. It struck him that it was worth replying to, and he sent letter No. II. The chemist ceased to correspond further. I thought the letters might interest your readers.

Yours faithfully,

MEMO. (229/7.)

I.

DEAR SIR.—Your letter has been sent on to me. For the present my assistant is staying on, but if you are in the neighbourhood I shall be glad to see you, if you think your references will meet my requirements. It is quite necessary my assistant should be of good appearance and address, used to attending to well-educated and wealthy people, and be a good dispenser. By this I do not mean merely placing together ingredients ordered in a prescription, but to know the best way to manipulate them, etc., in case of emergency, quickly be able to prepare a preparation that may be required for a prescription. For this it is, of course, necessary that one is well up in the strength and nature of all the Codex preparations and of "Martindale," as the latest ideas are quickly tried by the medical men here, and in my absence there must be no hesitation in answering a doctor and quickly carrying out his wishes. It is nearly all "phone" work, and as my experience of business has not been gained in an ordinary chemist's shop, I believe I carry on business rather differently to what I find assistants are used to; but the work is clean, and neat, orderly and methodical habits must be kept so that everything goes on quickly and with ease. I should not require you to keep the books, but in advertising as I did I meant that the first elements of correct booking were necessary—that is, that all orders were detailed as to quantity, prices, and also detailed as to customers' initials and residence, so making everything easy for copying from day-book to ledger. So many assistants are merely shopmen and used only to cash transactions. The berth is an outdoor one, a half-day a week from 1 P.M. and an evening from 7.30 P.M.; other evenings 9 P.M.; but there are a few details that could be gone into further should we be able to arrange anything. I should be glad to show some particulars as to length of time you have been in your berths, and whether I shall be able to get satisfactory references as to ability to carry out the duties here for me in my absence.—Yours, etc.

II.

DEAR SIR.—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of — with great pleasure, because I feel that I have at last found a chief under whom it would be a pleasure to serve. Hitherto I have found the chemists whom I have served conducted their business on lines which were a source of annoyance to me from my ideal business standpoint.

I am of good appearance, and think you will admit I ought to be of good address and used to associating with educated, if not always wealthy people, since I was educated at — College and my people are of gentle birth.

Referring to the pertinent points you raise with regard to the standard of knowledge and ability as a manufacturing chemist you desire your assistant to have, I am proud to reply that I am a pharmacist in the highest and best meaning of the term.

I do not anticipate much adverse criticism from you regarding my method of handling your medical *clientèle*, although a large amount is done by telephone.

I am well up in all up-to-date business methods regarding indexing, folioing, and general office routine, in addition to which I pride myself I am a salesman with a sound knowledge of pharmaceutical science.

The matter of shop-hours, time off, etc., carries very little weight with me, as I desire advancement first, and to work in a congenial atmosphere second. Before placing proof of my statements with you and giving you references, I hope you will pardon me asking you what commencing salary you offer, and what other inducements in return for services almost as valuable as your own, when the guidance I shall receive from you is taken into consideration.

If I consider it fair I should not mind coming up to see you at my own expense, not necessarily in the hope of an immediate vacancy, but to satisfy myself that I had at last found what I desired.—Very respectfully yours.

Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

Cockleshell Ointment.

T. W. E. (13/8) writes: "Will you please invite your subscribers' experiences as to what is usually sold for cockleshell ointment for bad eyes?"

Appreciations.

"I offer you hearty congratulations on the useful *C. & D. Diary* for 1912," writes a Simla pharmacist (30/19).

"I herewith send my subscription for another year. Please accept my appreciation of the *Hospitals Pharmacopœia* in the *Diary*."—J. C. L. (92/35).

"Send the *C. & D.* commencing January 6. This is, I believe, my twenty-first year as a subscriber, and I find it absolutely indispensable."—W. T. (95/7).

Lethal Boxes for Cats.

Mr. Robert Stewart, Secretary of the Council of Justice to Animals, 12 Old Burlington Street, London, W., writing in regard to the lethal boxes described in "Veterinary Counter-practice" and by Messrs. G. Elliott & Sons, chemists, Walsall, asks us to state in reply to inquiries that he has received about the boxes that they are supplied in two sizes: the larger one is 2 ft. long, 18 in. deep, and 18 in. wide; the smaller one is 21 in. long, 12 in. deep, and 14 in. wide. The price of the large box is 25*s.*, and the smaller one is 12*s.* 6*d.*

A Remarkable Remedy.

A subscriber (31/37) sends us a letter he has received from the maker of a proprietary medicine, in which the following statement is made:

"This remedy is the most remarkable that has ever been discovered; you yourself will be aware that there is no cure known for bronchitis or bronchial asthma, and that whooping-cough is incurable by any means. On the other hand, — invariably cures, there are no failures, it is the infallible cure for whooping-cough, always relieving within a few minutes, and effecting a complete cure within ten or twelve days."

Leeches.

"A Blood-sucking Business" is the title which a correspondent (66/70) gives to a paragraph about leeches, in which he tells as a fact "that in the neighbourhood of Victoria Station there is an old-established chemist's shop which has practically the monopoly in these curious requisites for many miles round. Members of the medical profession have been known to spend hours in their search for a chemist who can supply the official leech." [We know of pharmacies within a mile of Victoria Station where leeches are kept. So that our correspondent's statement is subject to modification. We wonder how many present-day assistants know how to handle a leech? Some time ago, when in an historic pharmacy, we had to go to the rescue of an assistant who did not know how to get the leeches out of a jar, and he (a Major man) confessed that that was the first time he had ever had to handle a leech.]

Dispensing Notes.

This section is for the discussion and solution of dispensing problems and prescriptions submitted by "C. & D." readers. We are always pleased to receive the opinions of readers for publication. "The Art of Dispensing" ("C. & D." Office, 6s.) is the standard book of reference on this subject.

 Ferri Ammon. Cit. in Pill.

G. A. P. (26/24) asks what is the best excipient for pil. ferri ammon. citrat, and what is the best varnish for the pills? [Triturate ferri ammon. cit. 3ss. with pulv. tragac. gr. j., mass with 5 grs. soft manna, and after rolling and cutting varnish with tolu in ether.]

Ergot and Hydrastis Mixture.

SIR.—The price question propounded by Mr. C. T. Nelson is a little more difficult than usual. Both hydrastis and ergot have recently gone up to famine prices on account of scarcity, and ergot is also often sold at a fancy rate owing to its being physiologically tested. Even so, hydrastis and ergot liquid extracts can be purchased from reputable firms at such prices that the net cost of the ingredients of the prescription would not exceed 2s. 6d. In fixing the price I would be guided to some extent by the age of the prescription. If dispensed for the first time 5s. would be quite a fair charge, but if it were an old prescription such a figure would require an explanation to the customer, and this should as far as possible be avoided. In the latter case I would probably consider it good policy to charge 4s., or even 3s. 6d. It is quite likely that prices will drop in a few months, and in that event the lower figure might pay very well. The circumstances of the customer would, of course, also be taken into consideration.

Yours truly,

DISPENSER. (31/62).

 Phenol and Potash Application.

SIR.—I had a prescription as follows, which, when compounded, was milk-like in appearance, and my customer stated that it was quite clear, like water, from other places. He was told by his medical adviser that it should be clear. Will you please say what appearance it should present, and, if I am at fault, what is the cause?

Yours faithfully,

PERPLEXED. (24/55.)

| | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Liq. potassæ | ... | ... | ... | 3ss. |
| Acidi carbolici | ... | ... | ... | 3ss. |
| Aquam ad | ... | ... | ... | 3iv.—M. |

[When compounded with B.P. materials this preparation is clear at temperatures above 50° F. Below that temperature it becomes cloudy if liquefied carbolic acid has been used; and if crystallised carbolic acid has been used a slight separation in the form of oily drops may occur. Mix the solution of potash and carbolic acid, stir till clear, then add the water in four or five portions, stirring till clear after each portion has been added. The cause of your trouble is a deficiency in the strength of your solution of potash. Dissolve 15 grains of B.P. caustic potash in $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of distilled water and use instead of your liquor.]

 Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1912, pp. 435 to 454, where most legal difficulties are anticipated, before writing about your difficulty

A. L. (33/6).—The exhibition of coloured solutions in carboys by an unqualified person is not an infringement of the Pharmacy Acts.

Capsicum (32/41).—A registered chemist who manages the business of a deceased chemist under the conditions of the Pharmacy Acts, 1868 and 1908, will not be exempt from the half-holiday conditions of the Shops Act, although he lives on the premises.

Rosimolchea (33/2).—The preparation is ostensibly for the toilet, but by describing it on the label as a "certain cure for chilblains" it is brought within the charge of medicine stamp-duty. If the word "chilblains" is struck out there will be no liability (see *C. & D. Diary*, p. 440).

S. S. (27/54).—We consider that if a chemist sells borax which is not B.P. he should ascertain if the purchaser does not require it for medicinal use, but for detergent purposes. If so, then he will be right in selling it with the label "Refined Borax. Commercially Pure. Not for Internal Use."

E. C. A. (33/24).—There is no question of the fact stated in the *C. & D.* of December 30, index folio 62, that a wine-

licence cannot be removed from one shop to another without a magistrate's certificate. Application has to be made to the Licensing Sessions in the ordinary manner, and now is the time for you to begin the formalities.

Irish Subscriber (35/5).—You are not at all likely to get an injunction to restrain the competitive company from using their present name, nor would a Court grant an order compelling the company to change its name to please you. The grievance in regard to the letters may be remedied by application to the Post Office. Submit the whole of the facts in writing to the Secretary of the General Post Office, Dublin.

London (30/18).—There is no "New Poisons Act." What is referred to in connection with liquid ammonia is new regulations made in accordance with the powers of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, which Act is construed along with the Pharmacy Acts, especially that of 1868. Under the latter Act there are many decisions to the effect that the address of the place of business at which a poison is retailed must be on the label. In the case of a company it is insufficient, when a poison is sold at a branch, to put the address of the head establishment only on the label.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not as a rule repeat information which has been given in this section during the past twelve months, as it occupies space which can be more profitably utilised for other information. In such cases the numbers are mentioned, and if querists cannot refer to these they may obtain the numbers from the "C. & D." Office at the published prices, usually 6d.

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles, and when samples are sent particulars should be supplied to us as to their origin, what they are, what they are used for and how.

G. H. C. (31/53).—Luminosity is imparted to firebricks by incorporating asbestos with the clay.

Menthol (28/33).—MENTHOL AND WINTERGREEN CREAM.—This is best prepared on the basis of the "Glasgow Formulary" recipe for *Unguentum methyl-salicylat. co.*:

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Methyl salicylat | ... | ... | ... | 3v. |
| Menthol. | ... | ... | ... | 3j. |
| Eucalyptol. | ... | ... | ... | 5ij. |
| Ol. cajuputi | ... | ... | ... | 3ij. |
| Cera albae, | | | | |
| Ung. lanæ hydros. aa. partes | | | | |
| aequales ad | ... | ... | ... | 3x. |

A. R. B. (11/73).—You do not say what the "liquid glossy varnish" is used for. We should not expect a "varnish" containing petroleum to dry; probably petroleum spirit is intended.

J. B. C. (16/74).—(1) DRY SHAMPOO.—The use of benzine and carbon tetrachloride as dry shampoos should be discouraged owing to the dangers which their employment involves. (2) We do not know the recipe for plasticine, but it has been stated by the maker to consist of sulphur, farina, a vegetable oil, and vaseline.

S. M. J. (91/19).—BANANA OIL is a technical term somewhat loosely applied to amyl acetate or mixtures of that substance with other solvents, which vary according to the uses to which the banana oil is to be placed. The following are examples:

1. Amyl acetate, with a small proportion of celluloid.
2. Amyl acetate, acetone, and benzolene equal parts, with a small proportion of pyroxylin.
3. Amyl acetate 9 parts, butyric ether 9 parts, spirit 1 part.

J. A. D. (18/30).—BOOKS ON INK MANUFACTURE.—Mitchell & Hepworth's "Inks: Their Composition and Manufacture" (Griffin, 7s. 6d.); Gouillon's "Traité Méthodique de la Fabrication des Encres et Cirages" (Garnier Frères, Paris). Consult also the chapter on the subject in "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

Bristol (32/11).—We cannot identify the active constituent in the "potato-bug" solution. It is not quite clear to us what you intend by the term "potato bug," which in the United States indicates the Colorado beetle. The treatment for this is an arsenical solution.

Flour (252/62).—SAUSAGE-MEAL is a kind of powdered biscuit which absorbs the fat and moisture of the sausage more readily than bread, and it is claimed that it keeps better. Baked wheaten flour is also employed, but the coarser biscuit meal is preferred. The sausage meal is mixed with an

equal quantity of water over night, so that in the morning it is a slightly damp paste.

J. M. T. (12/29).—**AGRI-HORTICULTURAL PESTS.**—The most complete collection of formulæ for use in dealing with agricultural pests is that given in *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*, 1910. Information can also be obtained from "Pharmaceutical Formulas"; the leaflets published by the Board of Agriculture (obtainable free on application); Loderman's "Spraying of Plants" (Macmillan, 4s.) and Strawson's "Standard Fungicides and Insecticides in Agriculture" (Spottiswoode, 1s. 6d.).

Paradis (13/33).—**SNAIL-PEST.**—A powder containing a small proportion of caustic soda should be sprinkled round the haunts of the large white snails, and will be effectual in ridding the kitchen of these molluscs.

T. & S. (256/31).—**AMMONIATED QUININE AND CINNAMON:**

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|--------|
| Tinct. cinnamomi | ... | ... | 5ij. |
| Tinct. lavand. co. | ... | ... | 5ij. |
| Tinct. quininæ ammon. | ad | ... | 3xxiv. |

Dose: One teaspoonful in a wine-glass of water every two, three, or four hours until relieved.

J. E. C. (21/54).—**CLEANING SCARLET COATS.**—The Army method is to brush the coat with a solution of salt of sorrel $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. in boiling water 1 pint, and then sponge the surface well with cold water. Another solution much employed for scarlet hunting coats is:

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|------|
| Stann. chloridi xtl. | ... | ... | 5j. |
| Ac. hydrochlor. | ... | ... | 5j. |
| Ae. tartar. | ... | ... | 5ss. |
| Aquaæ | ... | ... | 3xv. |

Solve. Apply with a sponge and dry out of doors.

G. B. (17/17).—**CHEAP COUGH-MIXTURE** without scheduled poison. The following is a type much sold to meet this demand:

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|--------|
| Ext. glycyrr. liq. | ... | ... | 3vj. |
| Theriacæ | ... | ... | 3vj. |
| Syr. tolu. | ... | ... | 3vj. |
| Sacch. ust. | ... | ... | 5ij. |
| Oxymel. scillæ | ... | ... | 3miss. |
| Ess. menth. pip. | ... | ... | 3ss. |
| Spt. chloroformi | ... | ... | 3iss. |
| Aquam ad | ... | ... | 3xxx. |

Dose: A teaspoonful as required.

Phenacetin (254/33).—**DEAFNESS REMEDIES.**—The mixture is a quinine tonic, and the gargle appears to depend upon borax for its medicinal properties. It is not possible to carry the analysis of these compounds any further.

Cream (28/36).—**SKIN-CREAM.**—As a start in your experiments you should prepare a glyco-tragacanth basis made of

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| Powdered tragacanth | ... | ... | 5ij. |
| Glycerin | ... | ... | 5j. |
| Chloroform-water | ... | ... | 3xij. |
| Oil of wintergreen | ... | ... | mx. |
| Oil of lavender | ... | ... | mxxx. |

X. Y. Z. (18/74).—(1) **CAMPHOR CAKE.**—The following are two good recipes, the second one being for a cheap quality:

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------|---------|--------------------|-----|---------|
| 1. | 2. | | | | |
| White wax | ... | 4 oz. | White vaseline | ... | 5ij. |
| Spermaceti | ... | 3 oz. | Paraffin wax | ... | 5ij. |
| Flowers of camphor | 3 oz. | | Lard | ... | 5j. |
| Nut oil | ... | 8 oz. | Flowers of camphor | 5j. | |
| Essential oil of | | | Lavender oil | ... | 10 min. |
| almonds | ... | 16 min. | | | |

Carnauba (23/11).—**LINOLETUM-POLISH.**—Several recipes are given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," but the following are further examples:

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------|-------------------|-----|--------|
| 1. | 2. | | | | |
| Yellow wax | ... | 4 oz. | Yellow wax | ... | 3 oz. |
| Palm oil | ... | 2 oz. | Carnauba wax | ... | 7 oz. |
| Oil of turpentine | ... | 10 oz. | Oil of turpentine | ... | 10 oz. |
| Benzolene | ... | 2 oz. | Benzolene | ... | 10 oz. |

The solids are melted together, the vessel removed from the source of heat, and the liquids stirred in.

J. C. (7/48).—**HORSE-LOTION BRICK.**—This "brick," used for making a lotion for the cure of grease, etc., in horses, is apparently composed of alum and zinc sulphate, coloured with Venetian red. To prepare a similar preparation mix 1 oz. of zinc sulphate and 2 oz. of alum with 1 lb. of burnt alum, add sufficient colour, and heat in a dish over a gas-flame till the mass softens, then shape into suitable lumps for sale.

Alfa (5/67).—We do not know the difference between "gelatin" and "gelatinous" pil-coating.

Yacht (3/27).—**MARINE GLUE.**—We do not recognise your sample, but the term "marine glue" is applied to various preparations used for caulking seams and coating bilges. The following are examples:

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|----------|--------------|-----|-----|---------|
| Resin | ... | 50 parts | Pitch | ... | ... | 3 parts |
| Linseed oil | ... | 6 parts | Shellac | ... | ... | 2 parts |
| Whiting | ... | 56 parts | Crude rubber | ... | ... | 1 part |

Melt the resin, add the whiting oil, and lastly the whiting previously heated. Fuse together.

3. Macerate caoutchouc 2 oz. in benzol 16 oz. until dissolved, when the mixture will be of the consistence of thick cream. Now add powdered shellac 30 oz., and heat and stir until the mass fuses and becomes homogeneous. Pour upon metal plates. For use the mixture is melted in an iron pot and applied by means of a brush.

Ajax (77/39).—**DIET IN FATTY CONDITIONS OF THE HEART.**—The following summarises the permitted and forbidden articles of diet when it is desired to reduce or to prevent the formation of fat in the human body:

| | |
|--|--|
| Permitted. | Forbidden. |
| Lean meat, especially | All fat and fat meats, especially pork, veal, duck, and tongue. |
| Leefsteak; also mutton, chicken, game, ham and tongue. | |
| White fish, especially cod. | Salmon, cels, herring, and mackerel. |
| Saccharin. | Sugar in all forms. |
| Toasts, rusks, and diabetic biscuits. | Bread; all farinaceous foods and puddings. |
| Green vegetables, salad, fresh fruit in small quantity. | Potatoes, carrots, parsnips, peas, beans (except French beans), and bananas. |
| Eggs, cheese in small quantity. | Butter, cream, milk. |
| Tea, black coffee. | All sweet drinks. |
| Mineral waters. | |
| Alcohol, very little, mainly claret, Rhine wine, and whisky. | Beer and sweet wines of all kinds. |

Rad. Gent. (25/8).—**ASBESTOS PUTTY.**—used for boilers, is a mixture of powdered asbestos and silicate of soda. The asbestos is sometimes diluted with barium sulphate or fine sand.

P. T. C. (27/40).—**BRILLIANTINE.**—See *C. & D.*, August, 19, 1911, index folio 327, and October 29, 1910, index folio 642, for the two varieties of brilliantine.

H. J. S. (29/3).—**CHEMICAL LECTURES.**—See *C. & D.*, November 4, 1911, index folio 698.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

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Peace!

The intelligence brought by the *City of Washington*, on Wednesday last, has put an end to the gloomy apprehensions of a war with America, which weighed so heavily upon us, and which had begun to affect, more or less, every branch of trade. . . . The trade and profession which we represent would, of course, suffer from a war with America, though only indirectly, and in a comparatively small degree. Putting aside, however, all considerations of pecuniary loss, there are still many reasons why pharmacists should be particularly grateful to the Federal Government for having dared to act justly. In America pharmacy is making great progress, being fostered by several admirable Colleges, and advanced by the labours of many first-rate men of science. From America we are continually receiving new and elegant preparations, which are far superior in every respect to those of our *Pharmacopœia*, which they are intended to supersede. The fine researches of American pharmacists are noticed in most English scientific journals, and in our own pages numerous essays of great interest and importance, derived from American sources, have from time to time appeared. For the sake of pharmacy, therefore, we have reason to be thankful that a war, which would have prevented the interchange of knowledge between the two countries, has been averted. If the expected war had really come upon us, we do not think any English pharmacist could have persuaded himself to regard men like Procter, Parrish, and Maisch as his enemies.